Soldiers — 1914.

GREAT DEFENSE

Of Colored Soldiers Made by White Paper—Severely Criticises Proposal of Ungrateful Congressman Who Has Forgotten Deeds of Patriotic Valor by Black Man.

Indianapolis, Ind., August 7.—The Star of this city carries a strong editorial in defense of the colored soldier in opposition to a rotten proposal of a Bourbon Congressman. The article is as follows

Negro Army Officers.

It is reported that the War Department is in danger of becoming "embarrassed" over a congressional request for an opinion as to the merits of a bill introduced by Congressman Frank Park which would make it unlawful for a Negro to be appointed an officer or a non-commissioned officer in the army. Where the embarrassment comes in it is not easy to see. The bill, on the face of it, is absurd and plainly unconstitutional. It is, indeed, high time that the Federal government should in no uncertain terms make its position clear in regard to the status of our Negro citizens. Being here, part of our citizenship, their status clearly defined by law, they are entitled to all the dignities and emoluments they can honorably win.

In the army, particularly, the Negro has made an enviable record for himself. The Negro soldier has always been loyal to the colors; able, efficient, brave. To rob Negro noncommissioned officers of the rank they have won would mean, at once, the disestablishment of four highly efficient Negro regiments. The history of the Negro in connection with the army has always been one to which the race can point with pride. The first bloodshed in the war for American independence was the blood of Negroes; at the battle of Lake Erie half of Commodore Perry's men were Negroes; the service the Negro soldier rendered in the Civil War has not been forgotten; our modern army officers can testify as to what the Negro soldier suffered and accomplished in the jungle fighting in the Philippines.

There have been colored officers in the United States Army since the Civil War; most of them have been held in honor by their comrades, and if the difference in color brought about any social clashes the world has not heard of them. In the French Army the Negro is held in high esteem and Field Marshall Dodds of the French Army, who retired two years ago, was a Negro who won honor for himself and his flag in Africa and China.

Napoleon's ideal army was based on the fact that in the knapsack of even the humblest private lay the potential marshal's baton. How much more should similar conditions prevail in the army of this free Republic? Under certain rather strict conditions promotion to commissioned rank is open to any private soldier; it must unless our vaunted freedom is a sham be as open to the Negro as to any other citizen.—Louisville News.

9TH CAVALRY MAKES GOOD IN SOUTHWEST

Letters recently published in The Age from Negro soldiers of the United States Army on duty in the Philippines have aroused considerable interest as to the welfare of the Negro soldiers on duty in this country. The result has been that letters of inquiry have been received by members of the 9th Cavalry asking as to conditions in the Southwest where they are now stationed.

The 9th Cavalry is stationed at Douglass, Ariz., where it has been nearly sixteen months. The camp at Douglass is spoken of as the best camp site from California to Texas, and the men seem to have become acclimated and happy. Some of the men are buying property in that section with the evident purpose of remaining there when their term of enlistment expires.

As to conditions in the camp and the general welfare of the soldiers the following letter from an intelligent and well-balanced member of the 9th Cavalry is sufficiently explanatory:

[illegible] tor of The Age:

[illegible] our friends have made in[illegible] our situation here in the [illegible] the 12th or 14th of this month will make our tour of duty sixteen months doing police work on the border. When we came here our commanding officer laid out our camp in military style and our eyes and ears were open in the discharge of our duty.

The hot sun and sand of Arizona was not conducive to our happiness, but our men grinned and bore it like soldiers. As time sped on they became acclimated and acquainted with conditions and today they seem contented.

Our camp site is the best from California to El Paso, Tex. Instead of the stuffy tent kitchens we have large adobe kitchens and dining rooms, and an adobe amusement room to each troop. Our band is nicely quarterd in an adobe building, and it is today as good as any band in the army. These buildings were put up by the men of the different troops and the

FORT RILEY, KANS.

MOUNTED SERVICE SCHOOL DETACHMENT, FORT RILEY, Kan.—Sunday, January 25, was "go to church" day. Services were held throughout the day by all churches.

The Literary Club of Manhattan, Kan., has issued a defi to Junction City for a debate, subject being, "Resolved, That unrestricted immigration is a detriment to the civil government."

Mr. and Mrs. [illegible] Jones has announced the marriage of their daughter Irene to William Hurd of Chicago.

The Big Four Club of the fort has lost its leader, Pie Lowe.

Sergeant Guss Smith created a sensation when he rendered a vocal solo entitled "I May Be Back Some Day."

The mounted service school detachment was organized in July, 1909, with soldiers picked from the four colored regiments. Since date of organization it has grown so rapidly that it is the largest single body in the United States Army. First Sergeant Walter Turner, the chief, is a man of ability. He has the welfare of all under him at heart. The mess under the directions of Sergeant Fred Ware cannot be beat and our bill of fare is ever ready for inspection.

Franklin A. Denison Elected Colonel

Major Franklin A. Denison was elected on Monday night, colonel of the Eighth regiment, Illinois National Guard. The election took place at the armory under General Foster of the First brigade. There were twenty-nine officers present. Twenty-five voted for Major eDnison and four for Lieutenant Colonel J. H. Johnson, Captain Hunt was elected to succeed Major Denison. Colonel Denison responded with an able address, pledging his whole soul and brain to make the regiment one of the strongest and most efficient in the country. Colonel Denison left his law practice fourteen years ago and went to Cuba with the regiment and ever since has given his time and talent to the organization. Every man and officer was greatly pleased over the election and absolute harmony exists. On Tuesday he saw a number of newspaper men and had no interview to give out save that he was going to take a few days rest after which he would begin active service in strengthening the organization of which he is the head. Upon his desk were letters, telegrams and flowers, and his office was crowded with fond admirers who wished him a world of success. Colonel Denison has distinguished himself as one of the most eminent lawyers in the great west. He is a graduate of Lincoln University and one of the leading law schools of this city. Being a man of exceedingly fine talents, he made his way to the front at the Chicago bar. This aws done by application and study. His ability was soon recognized and he was appointed city prosecuting attorney. His work was done with such consummate skill that he attracted the most prominent Republicans of Cook county. He was appointed assistant corporation counsel for the city of Chicago, and for a number of years he held the position with credit and honor. His practice is large, having to do with the biggest cases that come before the state and national Supreme Courts. He resides at 5413 Calumet avenue, in a beautiful home where there is a charming and cultured wife and three beautiful and happy children. Colonel Denison is a great student of nature and this is evidenced by the number of handsome and costly paintings that adorn the walls of his parlors, library and dining room. tI is a pleasure to be a neighbor and in the circle of his acquaintance and The Freeman and its correspondent join his thousands of friends in wishing him great sucess as the colonel of the Eighth regiment, the pride of the race of America.

[illegible] tives of the press were [illegible] ent.

Hon. G. W. Ellis to Speak.

Freeman Jan. 17, 14

LOUISVILLE, KY

COURIER JOURNAL

JAN 1 1915

MILITARY SCHOOL FOR NEGROES

(To the Editor of the Courier-Journal.)

I see in your paper that the McKellar Bill, whose purp se to establish military schools in all of the States and Territories to prepare the youth to become officers in the United States army, is likely to become a law. By it is contemplated schools similar to West Point, into which, as you know, it is very difficult for a negro to enter. Thirty years have elapsed since a negro student was in West Point. In the fifty years of the negroes' freedom only three negroes have graduated from that great school, and of those three only one remains in the military service, viz., Charles Young, of Ninth Cavalry, United States army.

I think it only fair to the negro and highly expedient to the nation that the McKellar Bill should be amended to establish a school for negroes in such States where there are a large number of negroes, and especially in the Southern States, where the negro is barred from the schools which are known as the white schools; or it might be better that the amendment should provide the establishment of one large school for negro students to be established at a central point in the United States. Unless some such provision be made for the negro with the exclusiveness which practically prevails at West Point, the negro who in time of war has proven his worth as a military power, will be practically shut out from military education, particularly in the South.

Such a provision amending the McKellar Bill would do not only the negro a great, and it seems to me a just service by increasing his efficiency in time of war, but would also, it is believed, materially increase the value of his services to our common country. If it be well to have any part of our instruments of war well equipped, why not have all so equipped? If the military training which is to be acquired in the school contemplated by the McKellar Bill will increase the military efficiency of the white soldier, materially strengthen our forces offensive and defensive, would not the same end in an increasingly proportionate degree be attained by similarity equipping the negro soldier? In time of war the negro has never faltered to answer his country's call to arms, and I feel sure that our great President, Woodrow Wilson, would recommend such a provision if called to his attention, and I know that you, who have always been fair and kindly considerate of the negro and desirous that he be treated fairly, will not hesitate to demand fair play for the negro that he might not only distinguish himself as an American soldier, but also greatly increase his equipment as a soldier.

Hoping that you will call the attention of the Military Committee to these suggestions by inserting the same in your valued paper, and also bring a knowledge thereof to the President of the United States, who, in my opinion, for his constructive ideas and other noble qualities is the greatest President that ever occupied the presidential chair, I am with the highest regards for yourself and confident that Congress will act in accordance with these suggestions, once its attention is called thereto.

J. D. HARKLESS,
Late of the Spanish-American War.
Maysville, Ky., Dec. 29.

The Tenth Cavalry as It Is.

To the Editor of The Age:

Having noted an article in your issue of February 26, and being a constant reader of your paper, I take the liberty of writing you this communication as I believe you have been led to print what is a deliberate misrepresentation of facts. I have reference to the article entitled "The Tenth Cavalry on the Border," by "An Old Soldier."

The statements of your correspondent are at variance with the truth as a whole, with the exception of "The good name of the regiment," and the dates we left Vermont and arrived at Fort Huachuca. The following is the routine of duties of the Tenth Cavalry, stationed at this post, viz.: Reveile, roll-call 6:30 a. m., immediately followed by ten minutes setting up exercise (this is a drill to develop the body and is sadly needed by about ninety per cent. of the young men now entering the army from civil life); breakfast 7 a. m.; mounted drill 8 a. m. to 10 a. m.; stables 10 a. m. to 11 a. m.; fencing exercise 11 a. m. to 12 m.; dinner, 12:15 p. m.; at 12:15 p. m., until 5:30 p. m. the majority of the garrison are at leisure, and they have a well-equipped library, bowling alley, swimming pool, billiard and pool tables, and most of the troops have pianos, with which to amuse themselves, of which no mention was made by an "Old Soldier."

Your correspondent also leaves the impression that "guard" is a daily duty, whereas it alternates between eight and nine days before a soldier is due for guard, and then only for eight hours out of the twenty-four. Your correspondent also states that 128 men have been discharged and only two have re-enlisted, which is a gross exaggeration, as we have only had thirty-two men discharged of whom thirteen have re-enlisted, a propotion of 41 per cent. That is a grand showing for any post or regiment.

I do not dispute the statement that he attributes to the white soldiers about their not drilling for eight months, although the fact seems incredible to me. Perhaps that is the reason we have one-half hour saber drill in the afternoon. It is done by orders from the department commander for the reason that at previous inspections by the commanding general of this department the soldiers were found sadly deficient in this particular drill. (The Tenth was not stationed in this department at the time of this inspection.)

R. L. HORNER,
Sergeant, Troop D, 10th Cavalry.
(Fifteen years in the 10th.)
Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

WOOD PROTESTS TO GOVERNOR GLYNN ON REGIMENT PLAN

The New York News.

State Democratic Leader Declares That Plan to Place White Officers Over Colored Men Is Silly and Insidious

WANTS MAJ. YOUNG TO LEAD

In Open Letter Aggressive Chief of Colored Democracy Urges That

Famcus Major of the Regular Army Be Sought by Governor Glynn to Lead and Organize and Drill Colored State National Guard.

May 11, 1914.

Hon. Martin H. Glynn,
Governor of the State of New York
Albany, N. Y

Dear Sir:—Through the daily press of this date I learn that the Adjutant General has pos'poned temporarily the organization of the colored regiment, owing to the fact that not a sufficient number of candidates passed the examination for officers and that it has again been proposed that the regiment be commanded by white officers. I desire herewith to renew our objections to this proposal, hitherto personally made known to you by me, and to suggest a practicable means for the expeditious organization of the regiment in accordance with the plain intent of the statute that makes mandatory provision for it.

To place white officers in command of the regiment would be a clear violation of the statute. The statute provides for a colored regiment. Nowhere in the Military Law is the term "regiment" standing alone, used to describe only the privates and non-commissioned officers, but everywhere in that law this term so used means the entire unit, including all officers in command.

If, however, further proof of our contention be required, it may be found in legislative debates upon the measure, and in the debate at the public hearing when the measure was before Governor Sulzer for signature.

COLORED TROOP FIRST TO OFFER SERVICE

The Philadelphia Tribune 4-25-14

The first tender of service to the Governor of Pennsylvania, to serve in the field in event of war with Mexico, came from the colored soldiers of this city, when Major Samuel B. Hart, on Monday last, forwarded to the Governor a tender of the services of the Gray Invincibles.

The following is a copy of Major Hart's dispatch:

"Phila., 4-20-14.

Gen'l. Thos. J. Stewart,
Adjutant General N. G. of Pa.
Harrisburg, Pa.

Sir:—

"Through your officer I herewith tender to the Hon. John K. Tenner, Governor of the State of Pennsylvania the services of the Infantry Battalion Gray Invincibles to be placed at the disposal of the President of the United States to be used on the field of battle in the event of war between Mexico and the United States.

Very Respectfully,
SAM'L. B. HART,
Major Gray Invincibles.

After forwarding this communication to Harrisburg, Major Hart, Captains Taylor and Lewis and Adjutant Carpenter sent out notices calling every man in the command to assemble in the Armory to place his name on the roll of those willing to volunteer.

Bugle Calls.

Every man will be expected to do his duty and uphold the honor of the race.

New York, the 30th of May looks good, unless the war with Mexico prevents.

Major Harts stands in offering the services of the Gray Invincibles, has been commended everywhere.

New York is preparing to give the Gray Invincibles one big reception on the 30th of May.

TO CALL CO L OF MASS.

The Evening [illegible] 4-23-14

MASS. REGIMENT OF MILITIA TO BE CALLED ON FIRST CALL IS SUED FOR VOLUNTEERS—REGIMENT WITH ONE COMPANY OF COLORED MEN WILL BE FIRST TO GO FROM THIS STATE.

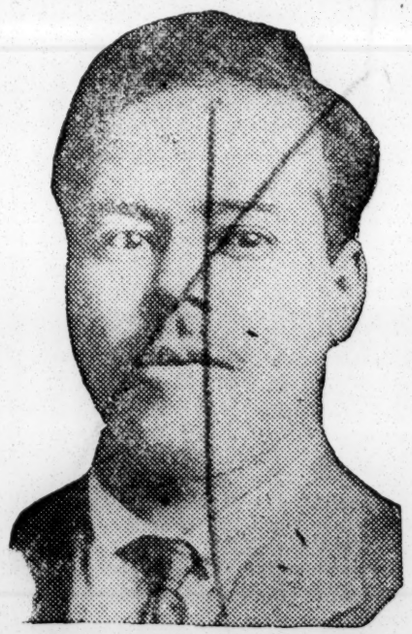
Washington, April 23.—The order for the National Guardsmen to prepare for active service in Mexico was issued tonight.

Fifty thousand men are to respond to the first call.

Massachusetts has been selected as one of the States best equipped to send its quota.

It is expected that the Sixth and Fifth and Ninth Regiments will be called upon at first for service.

Adjutant-generals in all the States have been ordered by General Mills



GEN. VILLA, OF REBELS.

in commad of the militia of the country to prepare for war.

The militia is to be sent to the Mexican border to take the place of th regular army troops, which are being hurried to Galveston. Their duty for the present will be to protect the border.

Co. L is Colored.

The Sixth, Fifth and Ninth all have enviable war records to uphold. The Sixth saw the first bloodshed in the Civil war, at Baltimore. In the Spanish war it participated in the Porto Rico campaign. It has one Colored company, L, of Boston.

Colonel Cyrus H. Cook of Concord commands the Sixth, Colonel Frank F. Cutting of Wakefield the Fifth. The Ninth is commanded by Colonel Edward L. Logan.

Sixth Leads State.

The ratings of efficiency of the five separate organizations of the State militia for 1912 show that the Sixth led in totals.

The companies of the Sixth Regiment come from Wakefield, Company A; Fitchburg, Company B; Lowell, Company C; Fitchburg, Company D; Framingham, Company E; Marlboro, Company F; Lowell, Company G; Stoneham, Company H; Concord, Company I; Lowell, Company K; Boston, Company L; and Milford, Company M.

NEGRO SOLDIER WILL DO NOW.

The Atlanta [illegible] 1914

To the astonishment of all intelligent citizens the enlistment of Negro soldiers was suspended some time ago by the War Department at Washington. For what reason, we leave to the white man and his peculiar nature to determine. Now comes the order from the same War Department, advising the recruiting stations that they may accept colored men for the army. What next?

We are not qualified to furnish a complete record of the Negro soldier; but we offer few instances of Negro bravery and loyalty in support of the common contention that the United States is guilty of gross discrimination against her colored citizens. That the Negro has always been loyal, efficient and unquestionably brave is accepted everywhere as conclusive. His connection with the army reflects credit upon him. The first blood shed for American independence was by a Negro; in the struggle at Lake Erie, Commodore Perry's force was half Negro; the Negro as a factor in the Civil War has never been disputed, and even in the recent wars, with Spain and in the Philippines, the Negro supported the colors with honor.

Since the Civil War, we have had Negro officers in the army, and their records would merit for a white man a substantial promotion. In the foreign countries the Negro has been placed in positions of honor and trust. In every instance he has won his spurs. The French boast now of the record of Field Marshal Dodds.

Yet, with such a past; with such a glowing record, the United States saw fit to deny the Negro the right to enlist in the army of his own country whose soil his labor has enriched.

But there has come a change. Just what forces have been at work to effect the change no one but the white man and God can tell. The order went out from Washington. This is all we are permitted to know. We are not inclined to the opinion that the present European trouble has anything to do with the order. We are rather impressed with the opinion that the use of Negro French and British troops in the present European struggle, and their ferocious fighting, stands out so boldly against the discriminatory practices of this country that fear of a similar situation in this country, together with that same disturbed conscience wich proclaimed a Day of Prayer, fathered the order from the War Department. The recruiting station at Dayton, Ohio, the one at Anderson, Indiana, and the one at Reading, Pennsylvania, have received orders to accept the colored applicants, and the spirit of the order may be gathered from the wording which plainly directs the acceptance "of all colored applicants."

It is a disgrace to this country that the Negro citizen was ever rejected by any recruiting station in the United States; it is no compliment now that the order has been issued to accept Negro applicants. Just so long as this country lends itself to the disturbance of the adjustment of the races here, so long will there be just cause for the world-wide criticism which is now being circulated against this country for its discriminatory practices against the Negro. The man who will sacrifice his life for his flag deserves better treatment than is accorded the Negro; and yet, in the face of the discrimination, there will be plenty who will take advantage of the recent order and enlist. For loyalty under the lash, the black man has no equal.—The Pittsburg Courier.

WHO'S WHO IN ATHLETICS

Lieutenant West A. Hamilto

By EDWIN B. HENDERSON.

Lieutenant West A. Hamilton, of the First Separate Battalion, D. C. N. G., is, first of all, a willing worker in many good movements. He is a teacher in the Lucretia Mott School, but his sphere of useful work extends far beyond the confines of this institution. As a guardsman, he has worked from the ranks. He was the chief promoter of a very creditable athletic performance within the guard hall this past winter, and now is busily arranging for a pretentious outdoor set of games for guardsmen to be held on the Howard Playground on June 20. Patriotism is much marked in his speech, and loyalty to country and friends is a striking characteristic. "West" is a good mixer—none of your highfalutin,'" unbending airs about him in the presence of even the most abject of our brethren. He is ambitious, yet does not overrate himself or abilities.

I cannot ascribe much athletic ability to "West," but as a promoter and athletic worker, the annals of the Public Schools Athletic League, the records of National Guard sport and Mott School games bear much supporting evidence.

On June 10 the Public Schools' Athletic League will hold its annual field and track games on the Cardoza Playground in southwest Washington. The beautiful Evening Star trophy will be awarded to the winner of the meet, and will, to a large degree, depend on numbers entered, rather than to the performance of a small group of stars. This is the first time that the meet has been held in the Southwest, and it is hoped by the committee that it will encourage participation in track athletics by larger numbers of boys than ever before.

Two eleventh division schools have won the championship in the two previous years of competition, but this time Birney School is going to make an effort to land this honor.

The events of the day are to be as follows: For boys under 80 pounds in weight, a 50-yard dash, a running high jump, a running broad jump and a 360-yard relay race.

The 95 pound class offers competition in the following events: 60-yards dash, running high jump, running broad jump, and 440-yards relay race.

The boys under 115 pounds in weight will compete in a 70-yards dash, running broad jump, 8-pound shot-put, and a 440-yards relay race.

Boys of unlimited weight will take part in a 100-yards race, running high jump, 12-pound shot-put, and 880-yards relay race.

The Cardoza Playground possesses the best track in town for elementary school boys, and will give splendid opportunity for fast work.

8TH CORNERSTONE LAYING AROUSES WASHINGTONIANS

(Special to The Chicago Defender.)

Washington, D. C., Oct. 25.—The first separate battalion of the District National Guard, as fine a set of men as ever wore a soldier's uniform, is in need of a suitable armory. Maj. James E. Walker has been asked to take steps to see if an appropriation can be secured from Congress for a sum that will provide an adequate home for the District's valorous reserve defenders. At present the Battalion is meeting in the basement of the True Reformers' Hall. They are reading of the great armory the 8th Illinois Regiment is putting up in Chicago, and it is making their military mouths water with a desire to have something like it for themselves.

Soldiers - 1914

NOT EXPECTED IN THE ARMY AND NAVY.

It is given out that the Army and Navy Department at Washington has issued an order that no colored man should be accepted for either branch of the service. This sounds rather silly taking it that the race question has influenced the decision. We are proceeding on the theory that the order was really given, and as we have reason to believe.

The order and the expressions of Negroes, those who insist that they will not fight Mexico, are of a kind. Both are silly enough. We are fully aware of the meaning of the Negroes who thus express themselves, but such expressions puts us further from the goal of our ambition—total citizenship.

We hope that our country will not find it necessary to war with Mexico. But in the event we have no right to question the wisdom of the ordering, at least, to the extent of hesitancy. Our country permits free speech. We can oppose the war in our arguments, but this opposition is not meant to thwart the will of the powers that be by open rebellion. At this noonday of civilization highly civilized countries do not thoughtlessly plunge their peoples into war. We concede the ministers of our affairs wisdom and understanding. To rebel against the majority opinion is no part of the plans of advanced peoples. England is battling with its County of Ulster, refusing to sacrifice a governmental tenet, as peculiar as the condition is.

In our own country it is pretty nearly the same. Negroes are "standing out from the war" because they are poorly treated as citizens. We are with them in a manner, as a further protest against civil wrongs. But when the gong of war sounds, should it sound—God forbid that it should—it is our duty to stand up with the country. Its disaster is the disaster of all. Its shame our shame. Many a man has been done to "death" by the courts, robbed of his means and pauperized until his "third" generation, and still he is a good patriot. The Negro's case is something similar.

The integrity of the nation is to be preserved in order that we continue to enjoy what we do We mutter because of civil wrongs and which is right; but we should not get away from the fact that the Negroes in America are a blessed people, by contrast. And if we will consider everything in the light of things with men as they concern nations one is not much out of the way to say that we are a "chosen" people. This has in mind the opportunities to do and to be. We say without a fear of successful contradiction, that the American Negro's opportunity in every way of progress is unlimited. We are prodigal with our opportunities, pitching them to the "swine." as it were. Our citizenship is our one serious trouble.

But whatever be the cause, thinking it be owing to the expressions of the Negroes heard and seen in print, the authorities should be in better business than making faces at the race. We are not to be dealt with wholesale, but individually. What one, two or a half dozen individuals may say is not to be set down as the sentiment of the entire race. The authorities are doing less than their duty, or exceeding it when drawing lines on any class of people who are citizens because of the nationality. The government is not a thing of sets of men. It stands for all or it stands for nothing. It may endure in spite of the fact that it stands for nothing, but like individuals, unless a change of heart comes about it will strike a snag some of these times. It is against the religions we embrace that wrong should forever triumph. The Negroes are citizens.

Religious Work In The 24th Infantry, Philippine Islands.

To the Editor of The Age:

I write to inform our race readers, well-wishers and friends that we are still alive. Although far away in the "Isles of the Sea" we have friends and loved ones who are anxious as to our safety, and we say with thankfulness that the Supreme Architect has kept us securely in His care.

We are engaged in a great work trying to further the cause of Christianity and widen the scope of education among our comrades. We have as chaplain the Rev. W. W. E. Gladden, an able leader and a man of high thought. Under his guidance we have accomplished much and are continuing on the upward march. Chaplain Gladden with his wife and family came to us (the Third Battalion and Companies "A" and "B" of the First) about six months ago. So far they have "Gladdened" the hearts of those with whom they have come in contact. Our religious services are progressing. The men are beginning to know that Christianity is a panacea for all ills of the human family. They realize that without religion the man is incomplete.

The Sunday School is doing its share likewise. One would be surprised to walk in during class hour and see a bright and intelligent lot of young men discussing the lesson. We have an efficient corps of teachers: Commissary Sargeant M. W. Saddler, Mrs. W. W. E. Gladden, Provost A. L. Pace and others.

The young men have organized the Gladden Bible Club for the purpose of making lighter the chaplain's burden. The club meets every evening for an hour and takes up the enlisted men's Bible reading as sent to us by the A. and N. Y. M. C. A. The chaplain has organized a class in theology and much good is expected as the outcome.

Company I held a religious service with First Sergeant Thomas Johnson acting as master of ceremonies. Regimental Sergeant Major Bruce Williams made a timely address and Musician Warfield rendered a cornet solo accompanied by Corporal Williams on the piano.

The organization of a debating club is projected by Commissary Sergeant Anderson, Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant Holland and others.

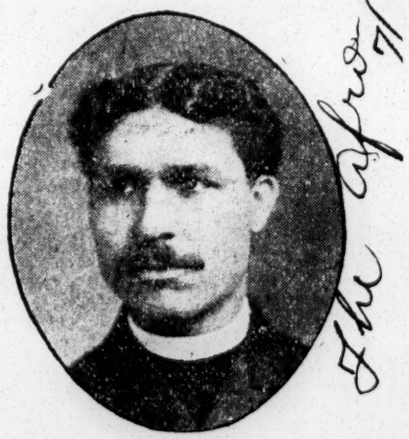
The Age always occupies a conspicuous place in our library. We are proud of such a paper. The men read it with eagerness because of its broad and outspoken manner of treating the most vital topic of the day, the race question.

GEORGE A. SINGLETON,
24th Infantry, U. S. A.,
Camp McGrath, Philippine Islands.

RAPID RISE IN IN U. S. ARMY

Chaplain Scott Promoted From First Lieutenant to Captain Has a Splendid Record

Honulula, H. I., July 14.—The promotion of Chaplain Oscar J. W. Scott, 25th Infantry, from the grade of first Lieutenant to that of Captain, which was announced recently, to date from April 17, 1914, has met with the heartiest approbation by the Chaplain's fellow officers and the entire enlisted personnel of the regiment and post. Chaplain Scott passed most creditable examination for his promotion to the grade which he now fills. If conscientious hard work, if untiring energy and devotion to duty, and if going constantly beyond the mere bounds of duty in helping and uplifting others, count for anything, then in addition to his superior mental fitness, our chaplain is preeminently deserving of his promotion.



REV. OSCAR J. W. SCOTT

Chaplain Scott is undoubtedly one of the most popular as well as one of the most efficient chaplains in the whole United States Army. He was born in Gallipolis, Ohio, July 31, 1867. An earnest and faithful student from early childhood, he passed through the grades of the common schools and entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at the age of 17, and although he was met by difficulties which compelled a suspension of his attendance upon the university for several years, he nevertheless returned to that famous institution of learning and was graduated there from with the highest honors. In addition to the degrees of A. B and A. M. conferred upon him by his Alma Mater, Drew Theological Seminary has honored him with the degreeer of B. D., The University of Denver with B. O. and S. T. D. and Payne Theological Seminary with the honorary dergee of D. D.

The chaplain is a member of the African Methodist Episcopal Church He has filled four important charges in that denomination since his college days—At Maidson New Jersey, at Denver, Oolorado, Kansas City, Missouri and the great Metropolitan Church of Washington, D. C., his last charge before his appointment in the Army. Dr. Scott's pastoral work in the various charges where he has served has been remarkably successful. His phenomenal success at the great Metropolitan Chruch of Wahsington, is a matter of common knowledge in religious circles. But it is of his work in the U. S. Army that calls for particular attention in this paper.

He was appointed Chaplain by President Roosevelt, and confirmed by the Senate April 17, 1907. He began immediately the task of improving the social, religious and physical welfare of the troopers of his regiment and his success has been remarkable, and increases with his experience in handling the peuculiar problems arising in the social and religious life of the Army.

The Twenty fifth Infantry was ordered to the Province of Mindanao in the far-away Philippines, in July, 1907, shortly after the Chaplain joined his organization. While in Mindanao, in addition to his regular religious work and other duties as Chaplain, he made an exhaustive study of the Magindinans Moro Tribe, for the United States government. This report received much praise from the authorities and is without doubt the best and most complete study, of the tribe referred to, ever attempted. A conference of the Colored Chaplains of the army, held during the regiment's tour in the Islands, was an unuual occurence in army life. The Chaplain attended this meeting and contributed considerably to the valuable dicussions brought forth by the meeting.

He returned to the United States with his regiment and was ordered to Fort George Wright, near Spokane, Washington, and while stationed there he was greatly in demand as a public orator, preacher and lecturer. He raised money for the purchase of a fine piano and also for the equipment and maintenance of a moving picture machine, by which means a great feature of entertainment and social betterment was introduced in the regiment.

After three years the Twenty-fifth fantry was ordered to the Hawaiian Islands, in December, 1912, where the regiment is still stationed. Chaplain Scott's work at Schofield Barracks, H.I. where he has preached and held the largest congregation ever achieved before by an Army Chaplain, has been widely commented upon. He has to all practical purpose, a large A. M. E. Church, and is, as he says, pastor of the church "farthest west." He is greatly in demand in the Hawaiian Islands, as a speaker and lecturer at public gatherings, banquets and other functions. Recently, he addressed the United Young People's Societies of Oahu, at the great Central Union Chruch, of Honolulu. He is at the present time just about to leave for an extended trip through the Island of Hawaii and Maui. while in the former island he will visit the wonderful volcano on Kileaua and on Maui he plans to climb to the summit of Haleakala and view the largest crater in the world. He will attend a native religious conference while on this Island.

Chaplain Scott has acheived phenominal success in holding services in open camp, while the regiment has been on the field. During the recent Carnival in Honolulu, he held a splendid religious meeting at the regiment's camp near the Immigration Station,—there being nearly two thousand in attendance. Bishop Luccock, the presiding bishop of the M. E. church in Hawaii, addressed this gathering of sodliers and their families and friends.

Chaplain Scott never loses an opportunity to procure the best talent obtainable to deliver addresses or lectures to his regiment. Recently Admiral Moore of the Navy, Dr. Westervelt, a great missionary and traveller, of Honolulu, Dr. Doremus Scudder, of Honolulu, Mr. Paul Super, of the local Y. M. .A., Dr. Henry Wadman, the noted temperance lecturer and the great Dan Crawford of Central Africa, have delivered varied and interesting addresses to the regiment. Chaplain Scott is a close friend of Dr. Scudder of the Central Union Church of Honolulu, and of Bishop Luccock of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Chaplain Scott is the Grand Deputy of Masons, Grand Lodge of Missouri and Jurisdiction, and also Grand Deputy of Odd Fellows in his regiment. He receieves his appointment as Chaplain in the army each year, from the Baltimore Conference of the African Methodist Church.

At the annual social of the Scott Litreary Society on June 24, 1914, the Ladies Glee Club of theS ociety presented the Chaplain with a most beautiful silver pitcher and a tray, made of polished wood from the Balkan States, in honor of his work to the regiment and of his promotion to a Captaincy.

The Chaplain is certainly a credit to his denomination and a strong race man as he is, his distinguished achievements reflect constan credit upon his race, regiment and the whole army.

John Storm.

The 10th Cavalry on the Border.

To the Editor of The Age:

I am writing this letter for the ben fit of some of our young men, wh ought to know about these things. am a soldier in the Tenth Calvary, S. A., and have been for sixteen years. I have served in the Twenty-fourth Infantry, the Twenty-fifth Infantry and am now in the Tenth Cavalry. The Tenth is stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, but at this time there are only five troops at Huachuca. The rest are on bounty line doing duty. Troops E and I are at Naco; Troops G, H and M are at Nogalez, and Troops K and L are at Forrest.

The Tenth Cavalry has a good name, as all know The regiment left Fort Ethan Allen, Vermont. Decemberf 5, 1913, and arrived at Fort Huachua on December 20, and we haven't had one day's good rest since we left Vermont. I am on the border and I am almost worked down. We get up at 5 a. m., have sabre drill from 6 to 7 a. m. and breakfast from 7 to 7:30 a. m. From 8 to 11:30 a. m. is mounted drill, and then we groom our horses from 11:30 to 12 m. Dinner from 12 m. to 12:30 p. m., dismounted drill from 1 to 3 p. m. Then we come in, feed our horses and get ready for guard mount at 5 p. m. At 7 p. m. we come in and get our supper. We go on post every four hours until midnight, then so many men come off duty and the same number go on. Those coming off do not go on any more that night but have their five hours sleep.

When the white soldiers were here they did nothing, because they told us that they had not had any drill for eight months or more. I have been in the army for sixteen years and have never had to work so hard before. I shall be discharged in a few months and will never re-enlist. More than 128 men have finished their enlistment since we have been here and only two have re-enlisted. They were two old sergeants expecting to retire at an early date.

All the young men who desire to enlist in the army should find out all the details first.

AN OLD SOLDIER.

Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

NEW DESERTERS FROM 9TH AND 10TH U. S. CAVALRY

The Chicago Defender

Afro-American Troops Receive Special Mention in Adjutant General's Annual Report — Lowest Percentages.

12/12/14

Washington, D. C., Dec. 11—(Special).—In the adjutant general's annual report of the United States army the Afro-American troops were conspicuously mentioned. There were 3,882 desertions from the army during the year, being 3.10 per cent of the enlisted force.

The regiments that had the lowest percentages of desertions during the year were the Tenth Cavalry, Ninth Cavalry and the Seventh Infantry. The regiments with the highest percentages of desertions were the Fifth Field Artillery, Twelfth Cavalry and Twenty-ninth Infantry, all white. The per cent of desertions among the white troops was 3.32, and that of the Afro-American .0.64, which was a decrease among the Afro-American troops as compared with the preceding year of .59 per cent.

New York Times.

August 1914

GEN. MILES TO NEGROES.

Talks of War and the Future of the Black Race.

Gen. Nelson A. Miles told a large assemblage of Harlem negroes yesterday that the present European war was the most unjustifiable in its causes that he had ever read of in the history of the world.

"Today," he said, "nearly twenty millions of young men of Europe are being forced to fight each other and fill untimely graves in a conflict that seems to be as little called for as any that has ever occurred on the face of the glabe. In injury and fatalities it bid fair to be the most destructive war ever waged, in view of the magnitude and importance of the nationalities engaged and their marvelous equipment of the most approved machines and implements of destruction."

The visit of Gen. Miles to Harlem formed a very interesting part of the propoganda which has been conducted for some time to secure recognition of colored men in the Fire Department, on the police force, and in the Nationaln Guard. To further these objects the Equity Congress of New York was formed in 1910, and it was before the members that Gen. Miles spoke in their rooms at 84 West 134th Street. The General was met at Lenox Avenue and 134th Street by a detachment of the United States Boy Scouts, commanded by Major R. C. Wendell, and a detail from the Spanish War Camp was also present as escort in charge of Commander Hamilton H. Blunt, a former United States Army Captain who saw service in Cuba and the Philippines.

"You might be better off," said Gen. Miles, "if there were a recognized nation of colored people which they could call their own. We never can tell what the future may bring forth, but perhaps the intelligence acquired in the past few years by your race may be utilized as a great civilizing force for the great black belt of Africa with its 160,000,000 of inhabitants, which need the intelligence of such teachers and missionaries as your race has already raised up in this country."

GENERAL VILLA IS GEORGE GOLDSBY, LIVED IN VINITA

The Chicago Defender 3/14/14

Married Afro-American Woman, and His Son, Luther Goldsby, Died in Muskogee Eighteen Months Ago—Boy Was Half Brother of Cherokee Bill, Notorious Outlaw of Pioneer Days, and Was Porter at the Cobb Hotel.

Continually Drifted About—When Not Residing in Vinita He Spent His Time in the Hills—Left the Then Indian Territory Town to Enlist in the U. S. Army—Had Trouble Along the Border and Fled to Mexico.

(Special to the Chicago Defender.)

Muskogee, Okla., March 13.—The story published last week in the Chicago Defender, telling of the likeness of General Pancho Villa to one George Goldsby, a former member of the Tenth United States Cavalry, has been widely read throughout the state. It is said that the "Conqueror on Horseback" is a Cherokee freedman and an old-time resident of Vinita, and in bygone days was a frequent visitor here. The Vinita Leader, a popular and reliable newspaper, says:

Goldsby Well Known.

"George Goldsby, which is the supposed Mexican's real name, was for several years a resident of this country, then the Indian Territory, and his home was here in Vinita. He was at that time considered part Negro, and as far as can be remembered led a peaceful life. He drifted about the country and spent the greater part of the time, while not in this city, in the hills. He spent several years in the service of the American Army in Troop D of Maryland, and after his discharge from service returned here where he was married to a Negro woman. The woman was at the time cooking for Tom Knight, father of Morris and Henry Knight of this city. From this marriage was born a son, Luther Goldsby, who remained in this city up until three years ago. While in Vinita the latter part of the time Luther Goldsby, son of the present General Villa, acted as porter at the Cobb Hotel. He left Vinita three years ago, going to California. Returning from California, he made his residence in Muskogee and there died about eighteen months ago.

Son Half-Brother of Outlaw.

"Luther Goldsby was a half-brother, on his mother's side, to the famous Cherokee Bill.' 'Cherokee Bill' was captured in the hills near Nowata by two other Negroes and later hanged in Ft. Smith, Ark. The capture of the famous outlaw was made on the Verdigris river at Gooseneck bend, a Negro settlement near Nowata. The maiden name of the mother of Luther Goldsby is unknown here now, but the facts in the case of Pancho Villa are true, and his residence here, his marriage to a Vinita Negress, his service in the American army, and his entrance to Mexico now stand as verified facts.

"George Goldsby—or General Villa, as he now chooses to call himself—is remembered by many of the old-timers of this city. They remember him, and his picture shows him to be the type of a man that could readily pass for a Mexican.

Villa Not a Mexican.

"From an enlisted soldier in the United States army to the generalship of a force that bids fair to conquer all Mexico is a long step. General Villa now stands as a unique figure in that revolution-swept country, and is a marvel of the modern world in generalship. At the time of his flight from this country into Mexico he enlisted in the regular Mexican army, and later became a bandit, and the most famous bandit that Mexico has ever known. The training he received in the American service stood him in good stead, and he always has shown a rare cunning and good generalship. He is not a Mexican at all, but an American white-Negro. During his days of outlawry he gathered about him a small band of insurrectos and bandits, and spent the time plundering the country in the wake of the other armies in the early stages of the first revolutions, and, though lacking arms and ammunition, he has carried everything before him.

Quiet in Manner.

"George Goldsby is remembered as a man tall of stature, strong featured, part Indian, quiet and as one of grim determination. He was well known to a few of the old settlers, and they say that his existence here was peaceful and not marked by any great show of energy or viciousness. He kept pretty much to himself, keeping in obscurity the commanding influence he was capable of mustering. His figure was calm and commanding, and his step had the quick, determined, intellectual air with it that would cause comment. He returned here after his service in the army during the early eighties, and his record in the army proves his nature to be wild, reckless and daring. He was a good soldier, and gained during his service that which has brought him into the eyes of the entire world—the art of generalship. Two years after his marriage here he got into trouble along the Texas border and was forced to flee the country into Mexico, where he soon entered into the precarious bandit and army life.

"His only connections of this country are believed to be dead, they being the son, Luther Goldsby, 'Cherokee Bill' and the mother and wife. The Negro woman was last heard of at her home near Fort Gibson several years after Goldsby's flight into Mexico, but has been reported dead since that time."

GOLDSBY WAS ROVER.

Soldiers — 1914

AGAINST NEGRO OFFICERS IN THE U.S. ARMY

Georgia Congressman Would Bar Colored Soldiers From Being Commissioned or Non-Commissioned Officer.

NEGRO'S RECORD IN THE ARMY

A Fair Sample of Just How Far Southern Bourbons Will Go To Show Their Regard for the Golden Rule

Washington, July 1.—Despite the fact that colored men are now notoriously discriminated against in the Army and Navy, Congressman Park, of Georgia, introduced a bill last Saturday making it unlawful to appoint colored men as commissioned and non-commissioned officers in the Army or Navy.

The provisions of the bill follow:

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this act it shall be unlawful for persons of the Negro race to be designated, elected or appointed commissioned or non-commissioned officers in the Army or Navy of the United States.

"That all laws in conflict with this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed."

The bill was ordered printed and was referred to the committee on military affairs.

THE NEGRO AS A SOLDIER

Colored men have taken part in all the wars of the United States. Crispus Attucks was the first colonial soldier to die the Revolutionary War. A monument has been erected on Boston Common to those who fell in the first battle of the Revolutionary War, and Crispus Attucks is the central figure thereon.

The Annals of Congress, under date of December 5, 1775, has the following to say of the heroism of colored soldiers:

"To the Honorable General Court of the Massachusetts Bay:

"The subscribers beg leave to report to your honorable house—which we do in justice to the character of so brave a man—that under our observation we declare that a Negro man named Salem Poor, of Col. Frye's regiment, Capt. Ames' company in the late Battle of Charleston, behaved like an experienced officer as well as an excellent soldier. To set forth particulars of his conduct would be tedious. We on beg leave to say in the person of this Negro centers a brave and gallant soldier. The reward due to so great and gallant a character we submit to Congress."

On the 30th of December, 1775, General Washington authorized the employment of colored soldiers:

"It has been represented to me," read General Washington's proclamation, "that the free Negroes who have served in this (the Revolutionary) Army are very much dissatisfied at being discarded. As it is to be apprehended that they may seek employment in the ministerial army, I have presumed to depart from the resolution respecting them and have given license for their being enlisted."

The Continental Congress did not agree fully with his suggestion, but on January 16, 1776 passed the following act:

That the free Negroes who have served faithful in the army at Cambridge may be re-enlisted, but no others."

In the war of 1814, General Jackson, afterward President of the United States and a patron saint of the Democrats, wrote to President Monroe praising the work of colored soldiers in and around New Orleans.

A colored soldier who distinguished himself as given the honorary title of major by General Jackson. During the Civil war nearly 180,000 colored soldiers were enlisted. They distinguished themselves in many engagements.

Colored troops also took a prominent part in the Spanish American War, and the 9th Cavalry made a dashing charge at San Juan, carried the day and probably saved the life of Colonel Roosevelt.

The highest position now held by a colored soldier is that held by Major Charles Young, one of the two colored graduates of West Point. There are several captians and lieutenants and a few chaplains.

There are no colored officers in the Navy, colored men being only enlisted as mess boys. There are two regiments of infantry and two of cavalry in the Army.

In a recent speech in the House of Representatives, Congressman Madden, of Illinois, recounted the part that the colored soldier has taken in the various wars of the country.

Nashville, Tennessean

11 September 1914

ADDRESS NASHVILLE NEGRO MILITIAMEN

J. C. Napier and Elder Preston Taylor Give Them Advice as to Deportment.

BY D. WELLINGTON BERRY.

JACKSON, Tenn., Sept. 10.—(Special.)—Nergo day at the Tennessee state fair was quite effectively brought to the attention of hundreds of negroes here today in speeches delivered at the fair grounds by J. C. Napier, former register of the United States treasury, and Elder Preston Taylor, prominent colored leaders of Nashville. They spoke to visitors at the fair being held here by the colored people, and Napier also delivered a second address at night, his address tending to encourage the members of his race to greater endeavors toward race building and all material lines. His address also tended to make better relations between the races.

Both speakers visited the quarters of Company G, the colored military organization of Nashville, which is in annual encampment at the fair grounds, and delivered strong speeches to the men, admonishing them as to their deportment during the remainder of their stay in Jackson. Rev. Taylor, who has been for years one of the best friends f the colored company in Nashville, pointed out that not in twenty years had a single member of the negro company been known to bring dishonor to the organization until at this place. He declared that because of this fact the men had been complimented many times, and had been the pride of Nashville negroes. He made it plain that nothing but the best behavior was expected of the colored company at all times. It is stated that this will be the first time in the history of the negro soldiers since they have been holding annual encampments that they will not receive praise and commendation from both white and colored residents from the communities in which they have been held. The company held its encampment last year near Knoxville.

The negro guardsman who was arrestsed on the street just outside of the park, and who had a revolver buckled outside his waistcoat, has been released and sent to Nashville, a fine having been paid for him on the charge of carrying weapons. He will be dealt with according to military discipline. The other affair had no connection with the pistol case whatever, and while more serious, there is also a peculiar side to it. It is said by the guardsmen that when the soldier attacked the officer while crossing the company's line it was not known that he was an officer. When the officer attempted to draw his revolver other soldiers rushed to the scene and the policeman was handled roughly. The men were acting on orders given that no one should be allowed to cross their line, and the affair happened while the officers of the company were uptown arranging for the release of the soldier already arrested for carrying weapons. The officers of Company G are Dr. C. O. Hadley, captain, and Dr. J. A. Lester, among the best known and highly respected colored men of Nashville. They are each safe and sane leaders, and have worked to keep the deportment and honor of the colored company up to the highest standard. Both of these officials are graduates of the leading Christian schools in this section, Captain Hadley being a graduate of Fisk University, and both are graduates of Meharry Medical College, and are at present on the medical faculty of that institution.

CHANCE FOR AFRO-AMERICAN BOYS TO ENTER WEST POINT

Twelve Vacancies in the United States Military Academy in 1915 to Be Filled by Illinois Appointments—Senator Lewis and Congressmen from 11 Districts Each Have One.

APPLICANT MUST BE STURDY AS HE WILL HAVE TO FIGHT.

Major Young and Lieutenant Flipper Went Through With Flying Colors, So Can Another Boy—Unwritten Law Since Their Time That "No Afro-American Need Apply" Should Not Dampen Ambition of Determined Boy.

There will be twelve vacancies in the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1915, and these twelve vacancies are to be filled by the appointment of lads from Illinois. United States Senator J. Hamilton Lewis and the congressmen from the Second, Fifth, Sixth, Eighth Ninth, Twelfth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first and Twenty-third districts are each entitled to one appointment. The attention of the boys of Afro-American parentage in Chicago and throughout Illinois is directed to these vacancies with the hope that one or more of them will successfully pass the examinations for these much coveted appointments.

Young and Flipper Did It.

The ambition of the average boy is to be a soldier and he is with pardonable pride that the officers conspicuous in the field and in the service of the United States army point to the splendid training that they received at West Point. The Afro-American race has had its graduates, memory only recalling Lieutenant Flipper and Major Charles Young, now United States military instructor at Liberia, Africa. They passed through West Point with flying colors. Since their time there have been no other members of the race to qualify for appointment. Next year, however, there will be abundant chance and surely the great state of Illinois can furnish a boy of the race to blazon the way again through West Point.

More Courage Needed.

There is no doubt that many lads can measure up to the mental and physical requirements of the examinations, as one or two have done before, but unfortunately they were deterred by want of a little more backbone. From the earliest days of the famous academy it has been known that no weakling ever went through West Point. This did not apply particularly to any race, but one boy some years ago backed out on this account. Now the call is to the gentlemanly and intelligent youth of today whose handiness has made them the pride of parents and associates and which has brought renown to their school or college in athletic sports.

Nothing Should Hinder.

Prejudice on account of color is to be encountered everywhere and it should be the last thought when competitive examinations are to be held. Make the start, go side by side with the other fellow in every test, and if merit alone counts it is up to you. If having equaled or excelled in examination that is another matter extremely vital at this time. The ambitious boy with the life of a soldier in view will not allow anything to deter him if he wants to be a West Point graduate. There will be twelve vacancies to fill next year and the question is will a boy of the race fill one of them?

DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

COLORED CITIZENS OF VERA CRUZ LOYAL TO "OLD GLORY"

News Correspondent at the Front Tells of Former Citizens of This Country Now Prospering in Business There

BLACK SAILOR WANT FIGHT

A. Vic Johnson in Second of His Series Tells of the Events Leading Up to the Taking of Vera Cruz and Colored Men Who Distinguished Themselves

By A. VIC JOHNSON.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, May 30. — The battleship Arkansas was at the southern drill grounds off the coast of Virginia preparing for target practice when she was ordered to Vera Cruz. The ship started on the journey within twenty-four hours after receiving the order. By this time she had taken on an extra complement of colored men from the Norfolk training station. The voyage to the Mexican waters was unusually pleasant and uneventful. Battalion drills were held on the decks of the warships each day, and the men were soon well prepared for any active service. On the day before the arrival at Vera Cruz word was received from Admiral Fletcher, who was already there, that he had landed men from the Utah and Florida, and that four were killed. The fleet at sea then increased steam and began further preparation for an early landing of the battalion.

The sailors were required to dye their white clothes into a kahki color for field service. This process took up all the afternoon. The dyed clothes were dried by steam, however, and by sunset the colored sailors were presenting an appearance like genuine soldiers. Rations and other equipment were issued later, and by 9 p. m. all hands were required to turn in, so as to catch a few hours' sleep, as it was expected that the fleet would arrive ahead of the schedule time. It was well that they did turn in, as shortly after midnight signs of land were visible. At 12:30 a. m. reville was sounded, and by 1 o'clock all hands took breakfast. It was now April 23, but it d'd not seem like another day, as the men only had four hours' sleep.

As the ships steamed into port the men constituting the landing force with packs on their backs, were already for disembarking; no one's face showed any signs of gloom, but the colored boys with smiles showed more signs of frolic than others.

The fleet anchored at exactly 2:35 a. m., and the helmsmans' reports to the officer of the deck indicated that the depth of water was approximately 15 fathoms.

After Admiral Fletcher called on the commander-in-chief, the battalion disembarked. Before daylight they had all landed. Firing by the opposing forces began before our men landed. The Mexicans who fired were hiding behind shelters in the vicinity of the docks. Rapid firing was then began by both forces. At daylight numbers of dead Mexicans were seen everywhere. The heat was intense and drinking water scarce; in fact, there was none, as the little water procurable was impure. The colored boys were in the middle of the hot skirmish. They fought unceasingly and kept up with the ranks continuously while others were dropping out one after the other. A good many of the white jackies who were not shot had fainted.

The three-inch shells were fired from the Chester and San Francisco over the heads of the jackies, who could see and hear these shells traveling at a great velocity. Meanwhile the ships in the harbor had a great view of the situation. The Mexicans were seen sniping from housetops while others were leaping to the streets from the windows of large buildings, and a good many were seen running away from the scene along the beach to points beyond the city.

On the second day, when the war was practically over, but cowardly sniping continued, colored residents of Vera Cruz offered their services to the American forces as interpreters etc. These colored citizens were later discovered to be Americans who had lived in Mexico for upwards of fifteen years. They would not leave the city because they owned a vast amount of property. They had absolutely nothing to do with the fighting, however, and although snipe shooting was conducted by Mexicans near where they lived, these colored citizens received very good protection by the American forces, as one night two of them were removed to a place of safety, while our forces raided the other houses in the vicinity. House after house was canvassed for firearms and other weapons, but these colored residents claim that they were undisturbed. In fact, the jackies who raided the houses were pleased whenever they met real civilized English-speaking people, even if they were colored; thus their property was saved, and it is apparent that all the colored people who lived at Vera Cruz before its capture were either established in profitable business or living independently. They claimed that no color line existed.

When interviewed by the special correspondent of the New York News, one of the colored residents stated with emphasis: "I will never return to the United States. It is my native home but I will live and die here, where I am recognized as a man."

He also stated that colored people here are more cordially treated by the American whites than they are in the Southern States.

After the first two days of fighting cowardly snipe shooting continued until Admiral Fletcher put the town under martial law. Then the town was transformed into one of peace up to the present time. The colored boys were also material in picking these snipers, as they were called.

An officer called the attention of one of the colored jackies to a sniper about to fire from a housetop. "See that sniper," said the officer? "Get him." The colored boy replied, "Aye sir," and instantly the jacky fired. A minute later the sniper rolled over.

The colored boys whose aim at the treacherous snipers brought exceptional results were John R. Pollit and G. D. Joines, both of whom are from Maryland. Of the total number of the colored boys who were landed the first day the majority of them are from the South. Louis S. Burton is the only one of them who hails from as far North as Philadelphia.

To show how anxious these boys were to fight for their country, when they were detailed to the landing force many of the sailors who were to remain on the ship expressed their desire to exchange places with the shore fighters, but they all declined. When told that they might meet their death, Chauncey Calbert said, "That's what I enlisted for," while the sentiment of the others were, "I have but one time to die."

Now peace is existing in Vera Cruz. The ships are still standing by for anything more that may occur later. Meanwhile the jackies are entertained on the ship decks each night by moving pictures and vaudeville performances etc.

MILES PRAISES BLACKS

Ex-Lieutenant General of Army of Uncle Sam Widely Cheered Before Equity Congress.

Thousands of people thronged around 134th street, near Lenox avenue, to witness the arrival of Gen. Nelson A. Miles, who spoke to the Equity Congress in Thomas' Chapel, Sunday afternoon. Upon his arrival he was met by Chas. E. Filmore, who had influenced him to appear before the Congress. The Boy Scouts were drawn up in front of the chapel and upon the request of Maj. R. H. Wendall, Commander, were reviewed by the veteran warrior.

Gen. Miles was introduced by Hon. J. Frank Wheaton and after three cheers were given Gen. began his speech. He reviewed the history of the black race in America from the first landing in Virginia down to the present day. "The progress," he said, "of the race in America is the most beautiful chapter in American history." He recited many incidents of the bravery of the colored man as a soldier. "At the close of the Civil War," he further stated, "it was my good fortune to establish 240 schools and to place 25,000 colored children in them." This statement brought a round of cheers from every one present.

In conclusion he said that he wished for the colored race every prosperity in the future.

DISTRICT TROOPS COMING

Colored Battalion Among National Guard That Will Encamp At Virginia Beach.

(Special to the Journal and Guide)

Washington, D. C. July 23rd.—The National Guard of the District of Columbia, comprising nearly 1,800 men, will encamp at Vrginia Beach, 20 miles from Norfolk Va., from July 31st, to August 10th, 1914. One organization of this guard—the First Separate Battalion—comprises practically the only colored national guard troops in the South. All the officers of this battalion are men of our race, and the discipline maintained is well nigh perfect.

These troops, who will leave Washington at 5 o'clock on the morning of July 31st, are expected to reach Norfolk not later than 4 p. m. that day. There they will be landed alongside the tracks of the Norfolk and Southern Railway, an electric line, over whch steam trains will carry the troops direct to Virginia Beach the same day.

This stop though short, will give the citzens of Norfolk and Portsmouth a chance to see this battalion which will report at camp more than 200 strong. In addition to this, both Sundays in camp will be holidays on which visitors will be cordially welcomed.

The staff of the First Separate Battalion is as follows: Major James E. Walker, commanding; 1st, Lieut. John E. Smith, Adjutant; 1st, Lieut. Arthur C. Newman, Quartermaster and Commissary; Sergt. Enoe B. Smith, Sergeant Major; Sergt. Francis J. Ennis, Color Sergeant.

The line officers are:—Co. A., Capt. Clarence C. H. Davis; 1st, Lieut. Joseph H. Johnson, 2nd, Lieut. West A. Hamilton; Co. B., Capt. Sylvester H. Epps, 1st, Lieut. Louis H. Patterson, 2nd, Lieut. Raymond A. Jackson; Co. C., Capt. Harry D. Richardson, 1st, Lieut. Thomas E. Jones, 2nd, Lieut. Ulysses H. Brown; Co. D., Capt. Samuel A. Ward, Lieut. Benjamin D. Boyd; 2nd, Lieut. James E. Slaughter. Hospital Corps:—1st. Lieut. Albert Ridgeley, 1st, Lieut. Henry W. Freeman.

Dress parade will likely be held on both Sundays, in which all troops will appear, and the First Separate Battalion will likely have dress parade by itself every third day beginning Wednesday, August 5th.

LOUIS CLOSE DEMOCRAT
AUG 10 1914

Negro Army Officers.

From the Indianapolis Star.

It is reported that the War Department is in danger of becoming "embarrassed" over a congressional request for an opinion as to the merits of a bill introduced by Congressman Frank Park which would make it unlawful for a negro to be appointed an officer or a noncommissioned officer in the army. Where the embarrassment comes in it is not easy to see. The bill, on the face of it, is absurd and plainly unconstitutional. It is, indeed, high time that the Federal Government should, in no uncertain terms, make its position clear in regard to the status of our negro citizens. Being here, part of our citizenship, their status clearly defined by law, they are entitled to all the dignities and emoluments they can honorably win.

In the army, particularly, the negro has made an enviable record for himself. The negro soldier has always been loyal to the colors; able, efficient, brave. To rob negro noncommissioned officers of the rank they have won would mean, at once, the disestablishment of four highly efficient negro regiments. The history of the negro in connection with the army has always been one to which the race can point with pride. The first bloodshed in the war for American independence was the blood of negroes; at the battle of Lake Erie half of Commodore Perry's men were negroes; the service the negro soldier rendered in the civil war has not been forgotten; our modern army officers can testify as to what the negro soldier suffered and accomplished in the jungle fighting in the Philippines.

There have been colored officers in the United States Army since the civil war; most of them have been held in honor by their comrades and if the difference in color brought about any social clashes the world has not heard of them. In the French Army the negro is held in high esteem and Field Marshal Dodds of the French Army, who retired two years ago, was a negro who won honor for himself and his flag in Africa and China. Napoleon's ideal army was based on the fact that in the knapsack of even the humbiest private lay the potential marshal's baton How much more should similar conditions prevail in the army of this free republic. Under certain rather strict conditions promotion to commissioned rank is open to any private soldier; it must, unless our vaunted freedom is a sham, be as open to the negro as to any other citizen.

Soldiers — 1914

Negroes In The Navy

The Journal & Guide 3-21-14

A young colored man of Norfolk applied to the United States Naval Recruiting station in New York for enlisment as a tailor, and received a curt note from the department saying that "at present colored men are only being enlisted as mess attendants." In spite of the printed regulations which do not specify color, this gross discrimination is practiced in the Navy. A colored man cannot enlist as a seaman, ordinary seaman, apprentice seaman, landsman, shipwright, blacksmith, plumber and fitter, sailmaker's mate, machinist's mate, boiler maker or in any branch of the skilled or unskilled service. A mess attendant may earn from $22 to $33 per month.

The patriotic colored man has an opportunity of preparing meals for for the men who fight for hiu country, but na opportunity to get closer to the battle line than the ship's kitchen.

The early history of the American navy bristles with acts of Negro heroism. In the war of 1812 they distinguished themselves in many engagements with the British. Commander Nathaniel Shaler, of the armed schooner "Governor Tompkins" says in a letter dated January 1, 1813: "The name of one of my poor fellows who was killed ought to be registered in the book of fame, and remembered with reverence as long as bravery is a virtue. He was a black man, by the name of John Johnson. A twenty-four pound shot struck him in the hip and took away all the lower part of his body. In this state the poor, brave fellow lay on the deck and several times exclaimed to his shipmates, 'Fire away, my boys; no haul a color down!' The other was a black man by the name of John Davis, and was struck in much the same way. He fell near me and several times requested to be thrown overboard, saying he was only in the way of others. While America has such tars, she has little to fear from the tyrants of the ocean." Commodore Chauncey in writing to Captain Perry said: "I have yet to learn that the color of the skin, or the cut an trimmings of the coat, can effect a man's qualifications or usefulness. I have fifty blacks on board this ship and many of them are among my best fighting men."

In view of the Negro's naval record in the past it is manifestly unfair to so circumscribe his opportunities for service and advancement in the Navy. Every nationality is given a better show then the black man. The Filipino, Jap and even the Chinaman are offered better advantages and superior treatment to that afforded the Negro. But there has always been prejudice against the Negro in the American army and navy, and his spendid record in spite of this prejudice is a fine testimonial to his loyalty to a country which he calls his own but which does not reprocate his patriotism.

BREAK GROUND FOR NEW 8TH REGIMENT ARMORY

First Spadeful of Earth for Permanent Home of America's Only Complete Afro-American Regiment Is Turned Monday Morning.

ONLY FEW PRESENT INFORMAL EVENT

Contractor Promises to Push Work—Plans Call for Modern Structure with Latest Equipment for Comfort and Convenience.

Few of the people who passed the vacant lot at Thirty-fifth street and Forest avenue about 10 o'clock Monday morning paid more than passing notice to the little group of men gathered there. Some few did, and they found that the party consisted of Colonel Franklin A. Denison, Lieutenant Colonel James H. Johnson, Captain and Quartermaster James H. Nelson, Sergeant T. F. Tyler, Revs. H. J. Callis and R. S. Abbott, and that they were there to break ground for the new armory of the Eighth Regiment, I. N. G., which is to adorn the spot.

Telephones Contractor.

J. P. O'Connell, noted as the contractor who built the Seventh Regiment armory, together with surveyors and other helpers, were also in the party, he having received orders to begin the work of construction at once. This informal group of men will go down in history as the first gathering of its kind, as no city in America has an entire regiment made up of and officered by men of the race, and consequently no state has had occasion to build an armory.

Signs Papers in Camp.

A permanent home for the "Eighth" has been the cherished hope of the regiment since its organization. For years it has been the all-absorbing talk of the boys in blue. The majority will be surprised to learn that actual work on their pet project was begun so soon after their annual encampment. But that would make another story. But the new colonel did something else besides drilling when he went to Springfield last week. Along with his outfit went many important papers for the signature of the adjutant general and the governor. These were quickly secured and this other story is told: When the regiment broke camp Sunday Colonel Denison had in his possession every order necessary for the contractor to start work, and when Chicago was reached his first act was to telephone Mr. O'Connell to be on hand bright and early Monday morning. The contractor lost no time and he promises to keep up that gait until the armory is completed.

A Great Honor.

No formal ceremonies attended the breaking of the ground, but it is a safe bet that none of the gentlemen who handled that spade would have willingly exchanged places at that time with anyone. Following is a brief description of the building from the approved plans in the hands of the contractor: The ground covered will be 5,000 square feet. The present plans include every known convenience to perfect the soldiers in the ways of modern warfare and physical training. It will be the delight of the athlete, the swimming pool and gymnasium being along the improved plan.

Features of the Armory.

Other features will be the rifle range, main drill, banquet hall, two reception halls, ladies' and gentlemen's reception rooms, smoking parlor, dining room, kitchen, ladies' and gentlemen's coat room, sanitary barber shop, bowling alley and a room for the "war correspondent." This is the first time in the history of the United States

...e race in any state has been so honred, and it is to old Illinois the world ...ust doff its hat for the first real ...rmory.

NEGRO REGIMENT HELD UP BY STATE

The New York Age

Claimed by Adjutant General That Many Officers Failed the Test.

5-14-14

ADJ. CARR MADE INQUIRY

Wrote Charges Against Major Fillmore, Who Denies Allegation and Says Carr Is Out of Regiment.

BELIEVES MEN STOOD TEST

Doubts Statement That Officers Did Not Pass Examination—Replied at Equity Congress to Attack of Carr and Blount

C. Franklin Carr, 129 West 135th street, who was designated as an adjutant by Maj. Chas. W. Fillmore, commanding the Negro provisional regiment of infantry, New York National Guard, authorized under provisions of a law approved June 2, 1913, has received a letter from W. A. Niver, assistant to Adjutant-Gen. Henry DeWitt Hamilton, under date of May 9, informing him that as a sufficient number of officers did not succeed in passing the prescribed examination the organization of the regiment has been temporarily postponed.

The Adjutant-General's letter was in reply to one written by Mr. Carr on May 1 asking for information as to when the regiment would be formed. Mr. Carr, in his letter, severely criticized Maj. Fillmore, stating that the major had changed the names on the list of men originally scheduled to take the examination, for which action, he said the major had no authority. Continuing, Mr. Carr said:

"Although Mr. Fillmore styles himself as the Colonel of the New York provisional regiment of infantry, he is supported by a few who are impressed with the idea that he, Mr. Fillmore, is the choice of the colored citizens at large as the most fit person to head this regiment. The members are little concerned as to who is to take command of this regiment. Nevertheless, if they had any discretion in the matter Mr. Fillmore would receive very little support.

"The members of the New York provisional regiment of infantry are patienty waiting the dawn of the day when they will be admitted into the National Guard. They are very desirous of having colored line and field officers, but if the law is construed to mean the latter cannot be awarded them they are perfectly willing to accept such officers as may be designated to take command of the various units just so they are competent and proficient men."

Fillmore Refutes Carr's Letter.

Maj. Fillmore was seen by a representative of THE AGE and questioned concerning Mr. Carr's letter and the Adjutant-General's reply. He said that it was not true that he had made any change in the list of men submitted for examination. On the other hand, he said, the list had been given to Mr. Carr, who had been designated as adjutant by the commanding officer of the provisional regiment (Maj. Fillmore) to be copied and Carr had himself made a number of changes. When Fillmore discovered this, he says, the list was taken from Carr and put in its original shape. Maj. Fillmore said also that because of a seeming lack of interest and enthusiasm in the work of organizing the regiment Carr had been relieved from duty and T. Henry Karney appointed as adjutant in his stead. Carr had also held the office of treasurer of the officers' school which has been meeting twice a week for several months, but within the last few days the men had taken action because of dissatisfaction with his work and removed him from that office, electing Lee Pollard as treasurer in his stead. Mr. Carr is expected to turn over to Mr. Pollard all the books and money in his possession belonging to the school at the meeting, Thursday evening, May 14.

Carr's Letter Not Authorized.

Making further comment on Mr. Carr's letter, the major said that it was written entirely without authority. That any letter written by the adjutant to the Adjutant-General should have been by the direction of the commanding officer, who in this case knew nothing whatever of the matter until it was called to his attention in public print. As to the statement from the adjutant-general that a sufficient number of officers had not succeeded in passing to officer one company, Maj. Fillmore said that he did not believe the statement to be true. He said there were 59 names submitted to take the examination but that only 19 of the men appeared before the board. Maj. Fillmore said his personal belief is that at least ten of those men passed the examination. The 59 applications were for the various positions on the staff, and for field and line officers, and included all officers from the colonel down.

At the meeting of the Equity Congress

held last Sunday at its rooms on West 134th street, Mr. Carr and Capt. Hamilton Blunt made speeches attacking the

10TH CAVALRY PRAISED FOR GOOD ORDER

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 25.—The *Army and Navy Journal* of March 17 contains an article under the caption, "Praise of the 10th Cavalry," in which several communications are published complimentary of the good order maintained by the troops of the famous regiment stationed at Fort Huachuaca, Ariz.

The communications follow:

The New York Age

Naco, Ariz., Feb. 27, 1914.

To the Editor of The Army and Navy Journal:

Knowing the generous pleasure your paper takes in giving publicity to all the good things you hear concerning the regular soldiers is my excuse for sending you these enclosures. The troops mentioned are Troops E and I, 10th Cavalry. It is but fair to state that as I have been on duty in the 10th Cavalry for only four months I am not entitled to as much credit as Mr. Abram's letter would imply. The good conduct of the enlisted men of the 10th Cavalry is closely associated with the history of the regiment, and is one of the many excellent regimental conditions that the 10th Cavalry treasures and guards closely. This desirable state of discipline is largely due to the splendid type of non-commissioned officers with which this regiment is blessed. These men are all old soldiers, with many years of experience behind them. They are men of dignity and force. It is not to be wondered at that the young recruit, with such examples, develops into the trained and disciplined soldiers who wins praise from civilians whenever and wherever he may come in contact with them.

FRANK TOMPKINS,
Capt. 10th Cavalry.
Commanding Troop E.

Residents Compliment Troopers.

Hdqrs. 10th Cavalry, Fort Huachuaca, Ariz., Feb. 25, 1914.

From Adjutant to Capt. Frank Tompkins, Commanding Troop E, 10th Cavalry.

Subject: Complimentary letter.

1. Enclosed herewith are four copies of a letter received by the Regimental Commander from Mr. F. M. Abrams, Naco, Ariz., relative to the behavior of the men of your command. The different copies are intended for the different persons as indicated on the face of the letter.

2. If you have no objections the Regimental Commander requests that you forward the two copies to the different Service Journals for publication. If you do not wish these published you may make what disposition you desire of these copies.

3. The Regimental Commander wishes to express to yourself and the members of your command his appreciation of their conduct which called forth this letter.

By order of Colonel Gresham;

JAMES HUSTON,
Capt. and Adjt., 10th Cav.

Hotel Naco. F. M. Abrams, Proprietor.

Naco, Ariz., Feb. 24, 1914.

Dear Sir: I desire to express my appreciation of the good order that is maintained here by the two Troops of the 10th Cavalry, under the command of Capt. Tompkins. It is far ahead of anything in the military discipline that has occurred here during this campaign. I sincerely hope that you will continue his presence here.

Yours sincerely.

F. M. ABRAMS.

To Colonel Gresham, Commanding Officer, Fort Huachuaca.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—This regiment is, of course, a colored regiment, and it occurs to us that such high praise of these colored soldiers may be read with interest by the readers of THE AGE.

It was the members of the 9th Cavalry, also a colored regiment, who were successful in capturing Castilla, the Mexican bandit, a few days ago on the border.

CHICAGO NEGRO IS COLONEL UNDER VILLA

The New York Age

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE.

CHICAGO, Ill., April 21.—A Chicago boy, Thomas J. Francis, who left here ten years ago and went to Texas, writes a letter to the *Illinois Idea* under date of April 6, from San Pedro, Mexico, camp of the Constitutionalist army, in which he states that he is a colonel in the eighth general division, Constitutionalist army, commanded by General Gamargo.

Colonel Francis said in the letter that he owns a ranch in Texas and has been in business in Chihuahua for five years. Last year he joined the Constitutionalists and was given the rank of lieutenant. He has been in seventeen battles and was promoted to his colonelcy after the siege of Torreon, in which his troops were engaged.

Referring to the report that Villa is a Negro, Colonel Francis says he has the features of a Negro.

In the ranks of the Mexican rebels are several hundred American Negroes, the writer asserts, naming J. W. Day, Jr., Arthur Harvey, C. N. Thompson, Jas. Blackshear, Ralph Corrouthers and Kid Jonathan as Chicago boys he has met. The American Negroes are classed as among the best and bravest fighters in the Mexican ranks.

AN INQUIRY ORDERED BY THE SECRETARY OF WAR

To Probe Charges of Discrimination Against Members of 24th Infantry

ADJUTANT GENERAL WRITES

Informs The Age That Secretary Garrison Has Taken Up Complaint of Color Line in U. S. Army.

Special to THE NEW YORK AGE. 1-1-14

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 31.—The Secretary of War has ordered an inquiry into the alleged mistreatment of the members of the 24th Infantry, stationed in the Philippines.

Secretary Garrison reached the decision to probe the various charges that the colored soldiers are being discriminated against after reading communications from members of the 24th Infantry appearing in THE AGE.

The War Department has forwarded THE AGE the following communication:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
The Adjutant General's Office,
Washington, Dec. 27, 1913.

To the Editor of The Age:

I am directed by the Secretary of War to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 20, 1913, inclosing a clipping from The New York Age of December 18, 1913, relating to the alleged ill treatment of members of the 24th Infantry now stationed in the Philippine Islands, and in response thereto to inform you that the matter will be investigated and that you will be further advised at the earliest practicable date.

Very respectfully,
(signed) H. O. S. Heistand,
Adjutant General.

Several letters have been received from members of the 24th Infantry protesting against the drawing of the color line in the United States Army. The writer of the last communication complained that the colored infantrymen were compelled to work in mud and water, load and unload lumber, shovel rock, eat in the rain and sleep in unsanitary places. The allegation was also made that white soldiers objected to colored soldiers visiting motion picture shows, post exchange or reading rooms.

SAYS HE TALKED WITH GEN. VILLA

The New York Age
3-12-14

Fred Scott Declares He Crossed Border Recently and Met Rebel Leader

SPOKE OF BYGONE DAYS

According to Scott He and Villa Exchanged Reminiscenses of the Days, when They Were Members of 10th Cavalry.

LIVED IN NORTHERN MEXICO

When a Young Man Villa Is Said to Have Murdered Army Officer Who Eloped With His Sister.

The article appearing in THE AGE of February 26, in which men of good reputations were quoted as declaring that Gen. Pancho Ville, the Constitutionalist leader in Mexico, was an American Negro and a former member of the 10th U. S. Cavalry, created a sensation among both the colored and white citizens throughout the country. Since the publication of the article THE AGE has received information supporting the claim that Villa is George Goldsby, an American Negro.

(Copyrighted by the Mutual Film Corporation)

GEN. PANCHO VILLA

J. C. Carey of Kansas City writes THE AGE that W. A. Haynes, a military attache stationed at San Francisco, and Fred Scott, a former member of the 10th Cavalry, who resides in San Francisco, have furnished additional information to substantiate their contentions that they were at one time intimate associates of the rebel leader.

According to Fred Scott, a short time ago he crossed the border and had a talk with Villa, and that he and the Constitutionalist leader exchanged reminiscenses of the days when they served in the same regiment.

W. A. Haynes says but few of the pictures printed in this country bear much of a resemblance to Villa.

The following story is told of Villa: When a young man he was the only protector of his sister, the other members of his family having died. His family left this country when he was very young and for many years lived in Northern Mexico.

Soon after the death of Villa's father, an army officer, stationed in the barracks near his father's ranch, eloped with his sister. Villa pursued the elopers and when he caught them tied the army officer to a tree. He then made his would-be brother-in-law write his own death warrant and dig his own grave. Then Villa shot him and rolled him into the grave.

Among the white newspapers to comment on the article appearing in THE AGE of February 26 was the *Daily Record* of Greensboro, N. C., which does not seem to think the American Negro is capable of committing the atrocious crimes as white men.

The *Daily Record* says in part:

"THE NEW YORK AGE says reliable information reaches it that Gen. Villa head of the Rebel army in Mexico, is an American Negro and has been identified by former comrades of the 10th Cavalry, where he served as Sergean Major, at that time going under the name of George Goldsby. Don't believe it. No American Negro in this country can be as great a villain as Villa. In addition, such a Negro would have better sense than to kill Bentor under the conditions now existing in that country; for that it was a wilfu killing is now established."

Would Kill Them But Would Not Bury Them

The Journal & Guide
3-7-14

An amusing, though pathetic incident of the Civil war was brought to the attention of the editor of the Journal and Guide this week by Mr. Isaac Gifford, of Mena, Ark. In sending a dollar to renew his subscription to the paper Mr. Gifford wrote: "I am a northern white veteran and was in the battle of Poison Springs, Ark., with the Second Kansas Colored Regiment, and helped bury the dead. The rebels fired on the flag of truce with colored soldiers, and the white soldiers went next day and buried the dead. The rebels said they would kill our Negroes would not bury them."

CARTER THREATENS TO CONFINE REGIMENT

Advertiser 4-18-14

Burgalries and Other Serious Offenses Have Discredited Negro Regiment With General Officer.

HONOLULU, April 17—As the result of a series of burgalries, holdups and other lesser offenses, apparently committed by members of the 25th Infantry, negro, Major General Carter stated today that he would, if necessary confine the entire regiment to barracks.

General Carters decision follows the third escape of private Herman Lewis who is facing cumulative sentences amounting to eighty years on charges of highway robbery. It is believed Lewis has escaped through the connivance of fellow soldiers.

Soldiers — 1914

Kansas City, Mo.

JUL 27 1914

THE NEGRO AND THE ARMY.

Attacks upon the negro appeal to certain members of the United States congress as opportunities for demagogery equal in possibilities for profit-making to the colonel's attacks upon bosses, real and imaginary. Representative Frank Spark is the author of a bill now pending which would make it unlawful to appoint any negro an officer or non-commissioned officer of the army.

Refusal to appoint negroes as non-commissioned officers would, of course, mean the mustering out of the Ninth and Tenth cavalry and the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth infantry, the four colored regiments of the army with records for loyalty and bravery so fine that they are envied by many white regiments. With only one or two exceptions the officers of these regiments are white. Their enlisted personnel, which, of course, includes all the non-commissioned officers, is black.

The few negro officers in the army bear excellent records. One of them, Major Charles Young, cavalry, has led a career which reads like a romance. An officer of admittedly unusual technical skill, he was recently wounded while leading the troops of Liberia, where he is on duty as the American military attache, because his own country rather hesitates at the employment of a black field officer under the flag he is so well qualified to serve.

France employs black troops by the thousands, and commissions black men in their command. Field Marshal Dodds, of the French army (retired) was a negro. One-tenth of the American population is black. If we are ever forced to become active in the business for which an army is raised, trained and supported, we may have need of that one-tenth. Is it wise, in time of piping peace, to brand it as unworthy of our service for no better reason than that some legislator may strut before his constituents as a champion of white supremacy?

ST LOUIS REPUBLIC

OCT 1 1914

Those Negro Soldiers.

To the Editor of The Republic.

It is with apologies to the United States soldier who followed the flag in Cuba and the Philippines that I mention the fact that I once served part of an enlistment in the Eighth Cavalry.

The war correspondents in Europe are loud in their praise of the fighting qualities of the French-African troops. The summer and fall preceding the Spanish-American War I was stationed at Fort Keogh, Mont., and came in contact with part of the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry. They could play, drill, march, sing, fight and die as well and as bravely as any soldiers that ever lived. Some day perhaps the United States will erect a mounment to the memory of the negro soldiers and their white officers who fought so magnificently in Cuba. The last songs I heard them sing in Montana were "Mr. Johnson, Turn Me Loose," and "Rosie O'Grady." "And the tunes that mean so much to you alone—
Common tunes that make you choke and blow your nose,
Vulgar tunes that bring the laugh that brings the groan—
I can rip your very heartstrings out with those."

With my "Ta-ra-rara-rara-ra-ra-rrp" (Is it naught to you that hear and pass me by?).
But the word—the word is mine,
When the order moves the line
And the lean, locked ranks go roaring down to die."

In November, 1897, my troop marched out of Fort Keogh, Mont., for Fort Meade, S. D. Capt. Rowell and his Company A of the Second Infantry turned out to give us a parting cheer. Next year they suffered severely at San Juan Hill. Capt. Rowell was the last American officer killed in Cuba. He left a wife and a large young family. How did they fare? I often wondered.

THOS. I. MACAULEY.

2522 Wyoming street.

New York Tribune

24 July 1914

BILL BANS NEGRO MILITARY OFFICERS

Park Embarrasses Administration by Raising the Color Issue.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, July 23.—The War Department is greatly embarrassed, as will be the Navy Department, by a request for information concerning the merits of a bill, introduced by Representative Frank Park, to make it unlawful to appoint as a commissioned or non-commissioned officer in the army or navy "any person of the negro race."

The color issue is something this administration has thus far evaded and it is probable that the House Military Committee, to which the bill has been referred, will not submit it to the department for the usual comment and recommendation until the next session of Congress.

By that time the November elections will have been held and any comment the War and Navy departments may make cannot be used for political purposes.

In the navy there are some negroes in the enlisted force, most of them being attendants. In the army there are four regiments of negro soldiers and four or five negro officers. One of these is now a major, who has been on detached duty for a long time and must return to his command. Whether or not he is sent to one of the colored regiments, he will have under him white captains and first and second lieutenants. There was some talk of amending the detached service law so that it would make an exception of negro officers but it was felt this distinction would be used against the administration, and the War Department was left to its own devices.

It has been suggested that the officer in order to avoid embarrassment, might be retired, but he is a physical giant and offers little promise of being found incapacitated for active service.

ACCUSED NEGRO AIDED BY THE UNITED STATE

Courier Journal 3-22-17

El Paso, Texas, March 21.—The United States government today came to the aid of the American negro James Logan, under arrest in Juarez charged with being a spy. The aid came in the form of instructions to Thomas Edwards, United States consul, at Juarez, telling him to retain the best lawyer available to defend the negro.

When Logan was arrested, a week ago, a typewritten note addressed to him and signed "F. C. T.," found on his person, asked that he obtain information as to the strength of the Juarez garrison. According to Logan the note was slipped into his pocket probably by a person interested in a suit on the adverse side of which he may be a witness.

The case will not be resumed until General Carranza arrives, probably Monday.

U.S. COMM'L APPEAL
SEP 9 1914

NEGRO SOLDIERS IN JAIL.

United States Army Officer Investigating Trouble With Police.

JACKSON, Tenn., Sept. 8.—Two members of a negro company of the National Guards, State of Tennessee, are in jail and Lieut. Fay Brabson, U. S. A., is making a thorough investigation of the trouble that arose last night between Patrolman John Newman of the Jackson police force and members of the company at the camp, when the policeman's revolver was taken from him and he was ejected from the camp by some of the negro troopers.

Company G, N. G. S. T., composed of 54 Nashville negroes, is holding its annual encampment at the West Tennessee Fair grounds under orders of Adjutant General Frank Maloney of the staff of Gov. B. W. Hooper.

Early in the night a lieutenant of the company was arrested near the N., C. & St. L. depot by policemen on the charge of carrying a pistol. The gun was not concealed, but was loaded. The negro claimed that he had a right to carry the gun. He was locked up by the officers. Later in the night, when Patrolman Newman on his beat entered the negro camp, he was accosted by one of the troopers, who asked him about the arrest of the negro officer. He knew nothing about it, but several members of the company caught hold of him and ejected him from the camp after taking his revolver. The matter was reported to the sheriff and police headquarters. This morning Sam Alexander, one of the negroes who helped eject the policeman, was arrested and is now in jail with Alonzo Bowman, the lieutenant who was arrested last night.

Lieut. Fay Brabson, U. S. A., arrived here last night on a tour of inspection and immediately began an investigation of the affair. The grand jury now in session will also probe the matter.

It has been dennitely decided that the District National Guard will hold its annual encampment at Virginia Beach, Va., near Norfolk, beginning actual military duty Aug. 1. Among the best drilled wings of the District soldiery is the First Separate Battalion, made up of colored men, under command of Maj. James E. Walker. The battalion gained great prominence under Lieut. Col. Arthur Brooks, retired, who is now devoting his entire time to his duties as custodian of property at the White House. During the school session he is instructor of the colored high school cadets.

The mixup with Mexico has been the means of drawing out expressions from the Negroes in their attitude towards the government. The newspapers that have had something to say have shown clearly the drift of sentiment, not to speak of what is heard on the streets. It would be almost treasonable to reproduce much of what is being said. And this may be charged up to irresponsible persons who are influenced by the hardships they endure as citizens. However, through it all rings a menace that is not without its value even to a government so great and powerful as our own. It is quite enough to endure prejudices and discriminations that come ordinarily. It is too much when men in public places use their offices for the purpose of working up prejudice and discrimination. It is this thing above all that has so incensed the Negroes.

PARK OPPOSES NEGROES AS OFFICERS IN ARMY

6-28-14

Washington, June 27.—A bill to prohibit negroes from becoming commissioned or non-commissioned officers of the army or navy was introduced today by Representative Park, of Georgia.

First Sergeant Henry Watts, who will be retired shortly after 32 years of active service as a member of the First Separate Company, Maryland National Guard. He was tendered a reception and banquet by his comrades last Friday night.

Springfield, Mass.

UNION

AUG 28 1914

TO RECRUIT MEN FOR COLORED REGIMENTS

Restrictions Placed on Northern Offices by War Department Dropped.

For the first time in more than six years the recruiting station has been authorized to recruit applicants for the colored regiments of the United States Army. Notification was received to that effect yesterday by Sergt. Richard Tattersall. In February, 1908, the War Department issued orders that no colored men were to be recruited in the Northern part of the country. Since then, although colored soldiers have been recruited, most of them have been accepted by stations south of the Mason and Dixon line, where no restrictions had been placed.

James B. Pollard, who received his discharge from the ordnance detail at the United States Armory July 3, reenlisted yesterday morning for service in the infantry and was sent to Ft. Slocum, N. Y. This is his third enlistment.

Springfield, Mass.

UNION

SEP 18 1914

USE OF NEGRO SOLDIERS.

Reply to Lunchroom Critic on Their Part in European War.

To the Editor of The Union.

Sir: I was much amused by and yet sorry for one of "A. B. C.'s" lunchroom entertainers. Just think of a man objecting to a country's using its own subjects even if they are Negroes. I should like to ask him if he is a German subject. He surely can't be an American or he would realize the position he would be in today but for the Negro who fought and died for liberty not for himself alone, but for white man as well.

He must not think that by giving the Negro what is rightfully due him he will make trouble for the white race, but if there should be any trouble it will have been forced upon him. We Negroes do not ask the white man to take us into his home to be entertained if he doesnt want us, but what we do want and insist upon is being treated as men, not barring us from positions we are willing and capable of filling.

I believe that if ever there is trouble between the two races that will be the one thing that causes it. People are like a river, you can build a dam across it, but the water will either carry it away or run over it. This is neither a white man's world alone nor a black man's. I am not going to ask that man whether he believes what the Bible says for he will answer, yes. But I will tell you that where the Bible speaks of a man's color it says that a man told a falsehood and he was turned white. So you see the first people must have been somewhere near my color.

W. GRANGER.

Springfield, Sept. 17, 1914.

VAST NUMBER WITNESS ANTHEM CELEBRATION

Monumental City Centennial Memorises Composing of Sta Spangled Banner and Repulse of British

COLORED NATIONAL GUARD IS BEST

W. Preston Moore, Noted Journalist, Visitor to Maryland's Chief City, Writes Exclusively of 100 Year Great Gathering for The Amsterdam News.

By W. PRESTON MOORE.

Baltimore, Sept. 15.

The first actual festivities of the Star Spangled Banner Centennial celebration, Baltimore, in remembrance of the composing of the national anthem and the repulse of the British at North Point and Fort McHenry a century ago, officially began Sept. with the arrival in the harbor of the ancient frigate "Constellation" and such modern men-of-war as the "Missouri," the "Illinois," the "Maines," the "Dolphin," the torpedo boat destroyer "Cumming" and the Cuban cruiser "Cuba."

Gov. Goldsborough in welcoming the visitors on behalf of the State said in part:

"I have no fitting words to express the graciousness of the welcome which all Marylanders extend to the guests within her borders. That sincere and genuine hospitality will be measured out to you, there can be no question. A Marylander, from the time he knows anything, realizes that it is always a privilege and a pleasant duty to make visitors from a distance feel that while they are within her gates a real home has been found, where the sunshine of happiness and the enjoyment of things good shall be their portion."

Mayor Preston, who followed the Governor, said in part:

"It is my duty to-night on behalf of the municipality and the people of Baltimore to welcome our distinguished guests in our midst to-night, the leaders of our armies and navies and the leaders of our civic work. The people of Baltimore do welcome on this great occasion the Centennial of the Star Spangled Banner and the bombardment of Fort McHenry."

At the armory reception Julia Marlowe recited the "Star Spangled Banner" and Kipling's "Recessional."

It was one week of splendid surprises and unparalleled entertainments, events that followed one another in a brilliant succession. The Afro-Americans manifested considerable interest in all of the great events. Diversity, sustained interest, climatic effect, resources of imagination and skill, the employment of local agencies and talent to the best advantage, the setting up of memorials and unveiling of monuments.

The military and naval parade was the kind of parade that everybody admires. However, space will not permit of us going into detail, but suffice it to be said with all sincerity that the Afro-American population displayed unbounded interest and loyalty in the historic affair of the week and every body of any consequence had a flag flying in the gentle September breeze. The Post Office Department eliminated the Afro-American carriers from the parade in which the Post Office participated. In the municipal parade Hon. Harry Cumming rode gallantly in a carriage with the Councilmen of the city, and in the educational section of the parade the "Colored High School" was splendidly represented by several very pretty young ladies, to whom great credit is due for displaying the workings of the various departments of their school, and these young ladies will see that the State's reputation for doing things is not only zealously guarded and maintained, but will add laurels and luster anew thereto.

No other Afro-Americans were officially represented in that day's celebration. The U. S. navy also eliminated the Afro-American sailors from the naval battalions during the military and naval parade. Such elimination is quite characteristic of the American modern navy. France, Spain, England, Germany, Cuba and the naval South American republics never eliminate their Ethiopian sailors or officers.

The Second Company Maryland National Guard, Afro-Americans, Captain Spencer commanding; Lieutenant H. Ryan, Jr., and Lieutenant Elmer Morsell, was the most attractive of the military paraders. The clock-like precision of the marchers, the steady gait which they maintained throughout the whole route, the attractive uniforms and the stirring music and mili-

tary bearing, all of these attracted the entire crowd as nothing else, and the Cubans with their band of 40 pieces equally shared and enjoyed the congratulations and laurels with the Afro-Americans. The Cubans were of mixed complexions and followed directly behind the Afro-American company of the Maryland National Guard.

Representing the Cuban government were: Senor Carlos Manuel De Cespedes, Manuel De La Vega-Calderon, first secretary Cuban Legation; Francisco Canellas, vice-conul at Washington, and Senor Eduardo L. Desverine, Cuban Consul at Baltimore.

Baltimoreans are proud of the commemoration of the writing of the song to the flag. Those who have been their guests will have only good words for the great hospitality their host so lavishly extended. We received a most cordial welcome and our visit was marked by the exhibition of every courtesy. Mr. and Mrs. James E. Nottingham took every care and delight in our comfort and happiness while at their beautiful residence. Among those who also welcomed us to the Monumental City were: Miss C. P. Smith, Miss R. Shipley, Mrs. H. T. Blake, Mrs. C. Brooks, Wm. Arthur Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hicks, Messrs. A. Grisco, A. A. Brooks, B. Brooks, William White and others.

The Star Spangled Banner parade of Saturday, the dedication of Fort McHenry as a park, with the singing of the national ode by the 6,500 Caucasian school children made up the human flag. The water carnival and fireworks displayed at night made a close to the centennial celebration full of action and interest and completed a week of jubilation and of patriotism that will remain as a landmark in the progress of Baltimore. The officials frequently gave vent to enthusiastic applause regardless of dignity. The celebration will tend to make even closer the ties of common interest of a population that is remarkably homegeneous.

WILLIAM PRESTON MOORE.
283 Clifton Place, Brooklyn, N. Y.

THE COLORED REGIMENT

The New York Times 5-23-14

Adjutant General Hamilton of the New York State National Guard in the letter which he directed his secretary to send to J. Franklin Carr, candidate for colonel in the proposed colored regiment, declared postponement of the organization of that regiment PENDING DEVELOPMENTS HOME AND ABROAD. In short, the highest military officer of New York State says New York wants a black regiment IN CASE OF WAR with Mexico! She DOES NOT WANT A BLACK REGIMENT in case there is no war! The nation wants black men, in the opinion of the Republican leader of the State Militia, WHEN SHE IS IN TROUBLE, but in times of peace she would have no black men in those forces which embody THE CIVIL RIGHTS of all men beneath the Stars and Stripes. This, we believe, represents not the opinion of the best or majority of New Yorkers or Americans, but unfortunately it does represent the attitude not only of the New York State Militia, but of the present military powers of the nation. In the final analysis, the American people are fair and friendly to the colored citizen. It is the misfortune of the country that the South is now in the saddle at Washington and that the anti-race sentiment which has been diffused therefrom holds sway in this great Empire State. THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE, however, has authorized a colored regiment, WAR OR NO WAR, and THE ENTIRE COUNTRY EXPECTS THAT THAT LEGISLATURE'S AGENTS FROM ADJUTANT GENERAL ON DOWN will do their duty and enlist that regiment. The colored men themselves behind the regiment are responsible for the excuse given by the WEAK-KNEED and UNFRIENDLY ADJUTANT GENERAL to rule as he so unjustly did last week. That factions should have arisen among them whereby the full latent strength of colored military men in this State could not have been presented are deeply deplorable. THEY MUST CEASE THEIR PETTY BICKERING and THEIR JEALOUS RIVALRY for office. It is not so important THAT THIS MAN or THAT MAN BE COLONEL, but it is important that the 350,000 COLORED CITIZENS OF NEW YORK STATE HAVE REPRESENTATION IN THE STATE'S NATIONAL GUARD; that they have an armory that the race's youths in New York State may have some place to go other than the street corners; that the race's youths may have the opportunities for its wholesome environment and athletic privileges like the white youths of this City and State. We repeat again, we do not believe that the Adjutant General of New York State represents the opinion of the American people. LET THE BLACK MAN ONCE REALIZE THAT THE AMERICAN PEOPLE WANT HIM NOT IN PEACE, but ONLY IN WAR TO STOP BULLETS TO SAVE WHITE SOLDIERS AND WIN VICTORIES, and THE BLACK MAN WILL WANT NO PART OF SERVICE FOR UNCLE SAM, ESPECIALLY IN WAR. THIS IS NOT THE HOUR FOR THE ADJUTANT GENERAL OF NEW YORK TO TEMPORIZE WITH OR IGNORE THE DEMAND OF THE COLORED CITIZENS OF NEW YORK FOR SERVICE IN HER MILITARY FORCES.

Soldiers - 1914

SAILOR BURTON OF NEW YORK HONORED AS VERA CRUZ HERO

New York News Correspondent at Front Gives Protesting Colored Men From Other Ships in First Fight Credit

MANY COLORED OFFICERS

A. Vic Johnson, Who First Told the Outside World Concerning Prominent Part Colored Men Played in Taking Vera Cruz, Gives Reasons Why Omissions Occurred in Previous Accounts.

By A. VIC. JOHNSON.

Vera Cruz, Mexico, June 3, 1914.—Readers of the New York News serving on board the U. S. S. Florida and Utah are in a quandary as to why those ships were not mentioned in the recent report in the News of the black boys in Vera Cruz. The reason is that the landing force from these two ships were landed before the News correspondent arrived on the scene of the fighting, and it is not known how many colored men landed from these two ships, but it is by this time a well-known fact that the Utah and Florida were actively fighting before the arrival of the fleet. The Florida has on board Mr. Skinner, a steward in the navy, well known to many of the readers of the New York News, and many other colored men who have served for a long period in the navy; while the Utah has on board, from the time of her commissioning, more petty officers in the general branch of the service than any other ship in the navy.

The number of colored petty officers she has in her engineers' force are large and the ship's evaporating room is in charge of a colored petty officer and is manned exclusively by colored men, while there are several colored petty officers in her gun divisions who were all at active service at Vera Cruz at the taking of the city.

The fleet is still waiting orders while athletic events aside from the usual training is being conducted on each ship.

Since the recent taking of Vera Cruz the navy has reached its full quota of men and telegrams were sent to all recruiting stations to discontinue enlistments in any branch of the service. Many colored men have re-enlisted, however, as a result of the war and a good many others joined the fleet, being restored to duty from the naval disciplining barracks at Port Royal, S. C. Among these is C. B. Whaley, who now has a distinguished post of duty on the U. S. S. Washington. Mr. Whaley is well known in New York and has served on several of the ships of the navy of dreadnaught type.

Shore liberty is now being granted to a small proportion of the jackies at Vera Cruz and the colored boys report that so far there has been little or no color line shown in spite of the fact that white Americans now make a great percentage of the city's population.

Louis S. Burton, known in New York as "Sailor Burton," and who is one of the honored Vera Cruz heroes, has demonstrated his talents in the pugilistic art in a smoker given on the U. S. S. Virginia, the full account of which will be given in next week's issue of the News.

VILLA NEVER IN 10TH CAV.

Member of Troop 1 of Famous Cavalry Discredits Report That Villa Was at One Time Member.

Sergeant Clayton B. Brown, a member of Troop 1 of the 10th U. S. Cavalry, in a recent letter discredits the current report that Villa, the rebel general of Mexico, is a colored man. He states that he is troop clerk and is in position to speak authoritatively.

NEW YORK EVENING POST

May 1914

FOR COLONEL OF NEGROES

MAJOR YOUNG, U. S. A., SUGGESTED AS HEAD OF STATE REGIMENT.

Only Colored Officer of His Rank in Regular Army Completes 30 Years Service in June and May Be Detailed to Organize New Guard Regiment Authorized by Legislature.

Representatives of the United Colored Democracy of the State of New York have written to Gov. Glynn suggesting that Major Charles Young, United States cavalry, a negro officer, at present detailed as military attaché to Monrovia, Liberia, and assisting in the instruction of the Liberian army, be made colonel of the National Guard regiment of colored militia authorized by the 1913 Legislature.

Major Young is the only negro officer of his rank on the active list in the regular army. He entered West Point in June, 1884, and will have completed thirty years' service next month. Under army regulations, an officer can retire, with the consent of the President, after thirty years' service, and the prominent colored men of this city, who have been fighting for years for the privilege of organizing a regiment, plan to have Major Young detailed to active service after his retirement and assigned to organize the authorized regiment in this State. This plan would continue Major Young on his active-service pay of $3,000 a year.

Robert N. Wood is president of the United Colored Democracy, and the other officers include F. F. Peresett, William H. Austin, James D. Carr, John T. Thorne, D. Macon Webster, Henri L. Smith, Cornelius A. Hughes, Owen M. Waller, W. W. Hanley, F. Q. Morton, J. Frank Wheaton, Edmund O. Austin, Samuel W. Jackson, and Rufus L. Perry. The letter to Gov. Glynn suggesting Major Young for colonel of the negro regiment was in part as follows:

"The Attorney-General has postponed organization of the colored regiment, owing to the fact that not a sufficient number of candidates passed the examination for officers. It has again been proposed that the regiment be commanded by white officers. I desire herewith to renew our objections to this proposal, and to suggest a practicable means for the expeditious organization of the regiment in accordance with the plain intent of the statute that makes mandatory provision for it.

"To place white officers in command of the regiment would be a clear violation of the statute. The statute provides for a colored regiment. Nowhere in the Military law is the term 'regiment,' standing alone, used to describe only the privates and non-commissioned officers of such a military unit as distinguished from its commissioned officers, but everywhere in that law this term, so used, means the entire unit, including all officers in command."

The letter also set forth debates in the Legislature to support the contention that advocates of the New Regiment act refused compromise measures providing for white officers. The letter continues:

"Intelligent and disinterested colored citizens of this State do not now desire nor have they ever desired to have a regiment commanded by white officers. If we are not to have a regiment in which colored men may aspire to any rank for which they are fitted, then we want no regiment. To place white officers in command of the regiment would be the plainest and most insulting implication of the inferiority of colored men; and the proposal is of a piece with that silly slander that colored officers cannot command colored troops successfully. The public policy of our State, as expressed in its Constitution, its statutes, and the decisions of its courts, lays down the principle of absolute and entire equality of the races.

"We do not oppose a separate regiment because this is a case in which racial separateness is only as the expression of a social condition not related to the question of civic and political rights. We realize that we should be unworthy of equality if we did not jealously guard it.

"The regiment could be most expeditiously organized by securing the services of one of the colored officers of the regular army. Such an officer, by reason of his skill and experience and by reason of the confidence and enthusiasm he would inspire, would be able in a very short time to train the requisite number of men. A request made by you to the War Department to this effect would probably be honored, and a colored officer detached to the National Guard of this State for that purpose. Major Young, who may soon be retired if he desires, has expressed his willingness to command our regiment."

During the war with Spain, Major Young was in command of a battalion of the Ninth Ohio negro infantry. He has served as military attaché at Hayti.

CITY OPENS HARLEM PLAYGROUNDS 'MID GENERAL ACCLAIM

Many City Officials and Distinguished Citizens Attend Ceremonies to Open Recreation Centers Secured by News

CHAIRMAN ROYALL PRAISED

Hurrah! for the boys and girls of Harlem. Hurrah! for the men and women who have fought so persistently and long with The New York News for playgrounds for colored children. Hurrah! for the officials of the city who granted the much needed request of the colored citizens of the city for a pleasure resort for the children of Harlem.

This morning, following the official opening of the playgrounds in 136th street, near 5th avenue, and 138th street and fifth avenue, the colored children of Harlem have a place for recreation. On Monday many children anxious to be the first on the grounds in 136th street stood around early waiting for the keepers to hang the swings. The large tent in the center of the ground will afford a shade.

Thousands were present at the official opening Saturday. Speeches were made by city officials and citizens. Geo. W. Lin[illegible] read letters from the Mayor, Borough President Marcus M. Marks, Assemblyman Michael Shapp and Eugene K. Jones of the Urban League. Miss Sofia Irene Loeb, playground director of the New York World, was present and spoke to the large audience. Hon. J. Frank Wheaton in his talk paid glorious tribute to The New York News for its efforts in starting the successful campaign. Brymn's Military Band, directed by J. Tim Brymn, furnished the music.

After the grounds had been turned over to the children by Hon. Cabot Ward, Commissioner of Parks, and W. J. Lee, Supervsior of Recreation Dept., the program was as follows:

Opening of Celebration — Brymn's Military Band, J. Tim Brymn, conductor.

Selection (March) — "Brotherhood," by Brymn (written for the occasion).

Brymn's Military Concert Band—Selection, "Grand American Fantasia" (arranged by Tobani).

Addresses by Sec. Elliot of Safety First Society and Chairman L. Hollingsworth Wood of Urban League.

Receiving playgrounds in behalf of the Playgrounds Committee, by John M. Royall, chairman of committee.

Brymn's Military Concert Band—Selection, "Watch Your Step" (Adams).

Receiving Playgrounds in behalf of the Ladies' Auxiliary, by Mrs. J. C. Thomas.

Brymn's Military Concert Band—Selection "Tute La Noit" (Pryor).

SOLDIERS DO NOT DESERT.

Washington, D. C. Nov. 12.—According to the report of the Adjutant General of the United States Army, the regiments that had the lowest per cent of desertions during the year were the 10th Calvary, 9th Calvary and 7th infantry. The per cent of desertions among the white troops was 3 23 and that of the colored .64, a decrease among the colored troops as compared with the preceding year of 50

"VILLA A NEGRO" SAYS EXPLORER

Work Monroe N Jan 19 19

The New York Age

Frederick Inman Monsen, Noted Traveler Gives Out Statement

3 - 2 6 - 14

VILLA WAS HIS GUIDE

Explorer Asserts Villa Has Negro Blood in His Veins and Has Had Military Training.

DAILIES LESS SKEPTICAL

The New York Sun and the Buffalo Courier Say that the Story about Villa Is Not Improbable.

Frederick Inman Monsen, the explorer, is the latest acquaintance of Gen. Panco Villa to declare that the Constitutionalist leader in Mexico is a Negro. In speaking of Gen. Villa's racial identity Mr. Monsen has given out the following statement:

"I have known Villa personally for years. He was my guide for several months. Villa is a man of dominating personality with the eyes of a born dictator. I believe he has Negro blood in his veins, and I am certain that he has had military training somewhere."

Frederick Inman Monsen is an explorer of note, who was born in Norway. In 1906 and 1909 he traveled extensively in Mexico with Villa as his guide. Monsen has also explored South and Central Mexico.

When statements were first published in THE AGE that members of the Tenth Cavalry were positive in their identification of Gen. Villa being an American Negro many of the daily newspapers were inclined to scoff at the idea. However, within the past two weeks the dailies have become less incredulous.

The New York Sun believes it within the realm of probability for Gen. Villa to be an American Negro, and says:

"Two soldiers of the Tenth Cavalry, a crack Negro regiment, have declared that they recognized in Villa a fellow trooper, and the story is not inherently improbable. The officers of the Tenth are splendid disciplinarians and they turn out fine soldiers. General Villa's energy, alertnss, methodical habits of work and familiarity with transportation and commissariat details are unusual in a Mexican. The man has great natural ability, and he handles his army of raw volunteers like one who is well grounded in the school of the soldier."

Refers to The Age Article.

Says the Buffalo Courier:

"According to reports from Chihuahua, Francisco Villa will not long recognize Carranza as his superior, he will exercise supreme authority in continuing the military campaign, supported by the troops in whose favor he is exalted, and he aspires to the presidency of Mexico. Whether this is a true account may be almost as difficult to know as to know what will happen. Another interesting statement is made by THE NEW YORK AGE, one of the most prominent Negro publications, a journal ably edited, and presumably with desire to be accurate.

"THE AGE a few weeks ago asserted that Villa is an American Negro, and it now repeats the declaration, with some presentation of evidence to support it. Also it prints a portrait, claimed to be his, of obviously Negro type and widely different from the pictures of Villa with which the public has been made familiar. The man is said to have been born in this country and to have served under the name of George Goldsby as sergeant-major in the Tenth U. S. Cavalry, although most of his life has been passed in Mexico. Men claiming to have been with him in the regiment say they have seen him recently and talked with him of their army experiences.

"The story is not improbable. Black men, or men with Negro blood, have made high military reputations in Central American and West Indian countries, Antonio Maceo in Cuba, as an illustrious example. White or black or Indian, however, Villa is creating no favorable foreign impression by his manner of dealing with those who cross his purposes, and his bravery may be believed largely in excess of his intellectuality."

Should Go to War.

Lester, West Virginia.

To The Richmond PLANET.

Mr. Editor: Replying to an article in The PLANET, May 23rd, 1914, followed by the name "Ajax," I would like to advise the writer, that if he would stop but for a few minutes and look sincerely into the matter which he has caused to be published in your paper, I believe that he would come to a direct conclusion that he has done the wrong thing. As a general thing, our own colored people do not read their own paper. For some years I tried within myself to think that they were not doing all that might be done to help raise the race to the level with other races. But since that time. I have learned, that there is a very good reason for not reading our own colored paper, from the simple fact that there is always at least one writing contained that is odensive to a man that looks at matters as he should.

I know that the "Danville" writer will want to know what I am "shooting at," but if he will stop and think he will soon see that this is not a shot. If you will show me, wherein the laws of the United States hold anything against the Colored man, it will be my next treat.

I am not much of a mind reader, but I can imagine I hear the reader of this writing saying "Jim Crow." Well that is just what I say, Jim Crow too. Jim Crow is all right, all you have to do is to strive to put better material in the Jim Crow side than there be in the other and you will find that you will do a great deal more good for the race than "Chewing the rag about it."

COLORED FOLKS JOIN THE ARMY

I say to every man of the Colored race that can find time to be away from his family to offer his service to the United States to help them in the conflict with Mexico. Offer your service by making your application. If the application is put on file to be held until the ,'Yellow Fever" breaks out, wait calmly until that time. If you do this, it will prove to the world that you offered your service for the good you could do. I agree with you when you say that since you are of that State you should be counted in with the forty companies, but you failed to say if the forty had not already been organized.

To compare the white and colored people of this country with a man and his wife, might seem a hard job as long as everything goes well, but when it might be worse, I think that we could make a comparison very well. As long as wife and husband are both doing the right thing towards each other all goes well. When one does bad and the other good, things may wag through a whole life and no one be hurt very much, but the very minute that one tries to see how much wrong he or she can do just because the other is wrong, there is trouble that the writer is here unable to explain.

ONE WAY TO GET HIM.

There is only one way to "get" the white man, and that is, each one that you come in contact with, surprise him by showing the unusual powers and abilities that you may have in that that is good. Fear the law and look out especially for "number one." When Colored people learn to class themselves as they should, they will have but little, if any trouble in getting what they want.

Remember when you are turned down sometimes for a white man in a certain thing, and too, a white man happens to be at the head of it, and it is the white man's money running it, that it is but right that "A man will save his own child before he would the child of another." Stand up for your right as an individual and not so much as a race and you will have better success.

Don't worry about what your child is going to do if things stay like they are, for you know that—

"Of the hard and weary loads,
'Neath which we bend and fall,
The troubles that do not come,
Are the heaviest ones of all."

WILLIAM CODY SPENCER.

NEGRO SOLDIERS WORLD'S FINEST

Cavalry Regiments Making Unsurpassed Record under Trying Conditions

The New York Age

DUTY HARD IN ARIZONA

10/29/14.

Two Years on the Mexican Border and the 9th and 10th Cavalry Troopers Have Experienced Worse than War.

6 SHOT BY STRAY BULLETS

A Tribute to the Negro Troopers by Correspondent of Influential Daily Newspaper of the Southwest- They are Object Lesson in Patriotism.

In view of the record being made in the European war by the black soldiers brought into the war zone by the French and English peoples, it is of value and interest to note also the record in this country of the Negro soldiers belonging to the United States army. For two years or more the Ninth Cavalry has been stationed on the Mexican border, and not infrequently the associated press dispatches bring the news that troopers of that regiment have fallen victims to stray Mexican bullets which have come across the boundary line. And the surviving comrades have not had a chance to avenge the fallen victims.

The gallant attitude and soldierly devotion to duty of the Negro soldiers arouses the admiration and respect of all who come in contact with them, and it has been declared that they are the finest soldiers in the world.

A Tribute to Negro Soldiers.

H. A. Lamb, a white newspaper man of the Southwest, is staff correspondent of the Douglass (Ariz.) *Daily International*, one of the largest and most influential papers in that section. Lamb recently visited Naco, Ariz., where the Ninth and Tenth regiments of cavalry are stationed and as a result he sent the following special to that paper:

NACO, ARIZ., Oct. 19.—To my mind the most interesting thing here is not the tiresome, ammunition-wasting battle across the line between Maytorena and Hill, but the behavior of the United States cavalry troopers (Ninth and Tenth regiments, composed of Negroes) on border duty here. The American soldiers have gone through an experience more trying than actual war, and have stood the test. A trip to Naco to see them on duty is an object lesson in patriotism. Nobody can come up here and observe these soldiers without feeling prouder than ever before of the men who maintain the nation's military prestige.

To me it seems that the behavior of the American troopers has not been only commendable, but remarkable. I have noticed it from the first. The only complaints I have heard about them are from General Hill, and his allegations are vague and without corroboration.

The Troopers Never Complain.

On this side of the line, under conditions naturally provocative of more or less criticism, I have never heard a complaint. From the troopers themselves and their officers I have never heard a whimper or a growl. Uniformly, they are not only civil but courteous in their relations with civilians. I have never noticed a soldier, even while off duty, acting any other part than that of a gentleman. Their discipline is perfect. More exceptional, however, is the common sense and moderation with which they use their authority.

Making a gallant charge on the enemy is easy compared with the ordeal the troopers are going through. This is a test not only of courage, but of patience and restraint and kindness. Cheerfully officers and men take their lot when kept on duty one or two days at a stretch without getting a wink of sleep. Always when on duty keeping civilians out of danger when the firing becomes heavy they are in more or less danger of being shot. During the attack early Sunday morning, for instance, American officers rode through showers of so-called "stray" bullets to warn people in frame houses of their danger and to assist them to the few places in town really safe. And getting shot by a "stray" has none of the glory and glamour of being wounded on the battlefield.

Six Troopers Shot by Mexicans.

Though they have seen six of their fellow troopers shot by Mexicans, in one or two instances it seemed deliberately, not once, so far as I am aware, have the United States troopers yielded to the natural temptation to violate orders and shoot back across the line.

The behavior of the troopers stands out finest in the treatment of the Mexican women and children, who are refugees on this side. The soldiers are their protectors. When the dirty, miserable refugees themselves were too indifferent to clean up the quarters in the opera house Troop D, [illegible] cavalry, commanded by Capt. W. B. Cowin, is in charge at the opera house. Yesterday was a busy da yfor them, as they had to look after arranging quarters for the Mexican wounded.

The record of the Ninth and the Tenth cavalry troopers at Naco is undoubtedly a credit to their regiments.

Soldiers— 1914

THE MILLS OF THE GODS.

EVERY INDUCEMENT IS NOW HELD OUT FOR OUR BOYS TO JOIN THE ARMY, an order from the War Department has been received by the different recruiting stations to accept men for the infantry. It is understood that they will be sent either to Hawaii or to the Philippines. Not so very long ago it was noised about that we were not wanted, that we were unreliable, that we were unmanageable unless ruled over by white officers, and divers other untrue and unpleasant things were said which had a tendency to make the vast majority feel loathe to offer their services to a country that so little appreciated them. And this, too, in the face of the splendid records made in every war this country has seen. H. L. Meites, writing in the Tribune under the caption, "The Jews and the War," says: "There are now over 350,000 Jewish soldiers in the Russian army defending the Slavic principles. They are giving their life blood for the expansion and preservation of pan-Slavism. They are fighting for 'Holy Russia,' where they have no human rights, where they are cut off from the land, where they can neither buy, rent, or even till. They are shut out from the civil service and are restricted in the adoption of the liberal professions. The Jewish children in Russia may not form more than 10 per cent of the pupils in the government schools, nor more than 5 per cent of the students in the universities. They are deprived of the rights of citizenship, but they must discharge its duties—pay taxes. And merely to live unmolested and to attend to their business without hinderance they must bribe the police for protection. Shall the Jews, for all these kindly privileges, sympathize with Russia?" And Mr. Meites adds: "This may seem to the American mind impossible, yet it is the absolute truth." Had he said any other mind save the American, we might not have thought he was jesting. If the American people or rather a certain portion of them, have omitted doing anything to the Negro that the Russians have done to the Jews, it was simply a case of omission that was unintentional and they doubtless beg to be pardoned for the omission. And yet we, like the Jews, would take up arms in a minute for our country, and why shouldn't we? It is the one thing that gives a strong foothold to any people, and too, who has a better right here than we? Might does not always make right, the under dog may be on top tomorrow. We must be identified with everything that concerns the welfare of the country, else how can we ever expect recognition? It has been demonstrated that no house can stand divided against itself, there must be a getting together sooner or later and this time we must abide. Out of this present war as terrible as it is, may come the Jew's salvation after 2,500 years of darkness and despair. The mills of the gods grind slowly but they grind exceedingly fine.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Army & Navy Register

JUL 18 1914

Negroes in the Army and Navy.

Much interest has been taken in the bill (H. R. 17541) which has been introduced in the House by Representative Frank Park making it unlawful to appoint as commissioned or noncommissioned officers in the Army or Navy of the United States any person of the negro race. The issue invoked by this proposed legislation may easily prove an embarrassment to an administration which is called upon to make a comment on the bill for the guidance of Congress. The motive of Representative Park is explained in his statement furnished the Army and Navy Register on request:

"The best military talent and the most efficient commanders originate in races of superior intellect. Beyond question the Anglo-Saxon has proven under all circumstances and conditions able to formulate plans for effective work in battle on land and sea. The negro simply imitates and is incapable of acting independently when responsibility is thrown solel upon him. This is a condition, and the Anglo-Saxon both in the land and naval forces recognize it and resent the placing in command a member of an inferior race even in a minor capacity in the Army and Navy. The negro being given a position of command, creates discord and is a detriment to the best service. This country was developed by the white race, and if it survives against exterior and interior foes it will survive through the inherent superiority of the white man. The bill was introduced in the interest of harmony in the Army and Navy and for the purpose of promoting the best morale possible. The bill was not prompted by feelings of prejudice, but from knowledge of the conditions and feelings of the respective races."

Lucy Nichols, of New Albany, Indiana, is the only colored woman member of the Grand Army of the Republic and is thought to be the only colored woman in the country drawing a pension as an army nurse in the Civil War. She accompanied the Twenty-third Regiment—the New Albany—throughout the civil war, returning with that regiment to New Albany at the close of the same. She was made a member of Sanderson Post, G. A. R., and the post obtained for her a pension by special act of Congress. According to recent reports, the earthly career of this brave woman is nearing its close.

Col. John R. Marshall Resigns.

Col. John R. Marshall has tendered his resignation as colonel of the Eighth Regiment. It pains us to learn that he will no longer head the greatest military organization of colored men in the world. Since 1892 he has been the colonel and went to Cuba during the Spanish-American war. He has made an ideal officer, admired and loved by all, strengthened the regiment, and a leader in military and public affairs of the city; above all, a home man of exemplary life. His successor will be elected January 12 at the Armory.

DIVISION OF PHYSICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Soldiers – 1914

CHARGES OF DISCRIMINATION IN THE PHILIPPINES INVESTIGATED

Secretary of War Garrison Promptly Orders Probing of Conditions Told of in The Age.

PAYS A HIGH COMPLIMENT TO THE 24TH INFANTRY

Declares That No Discrimination Exists and That All the Soldiers Are Required to Perform the Same Kind of Tasks---The Officers Share Hardships with the Men---Says the 24th Enjoys an Excellent Reputation in the Service.

CHIEF OF STAFF ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

Decries "Use of Outside Influence," Which Appears to be an Attempt to Prevent the Giving of Publicity to Conditions of which the Enlisted Men May Have Cause to Complain. Complaints of Men to Go to Secretary for Final Action.

"We are being treated like dogs, but as long as we are here we will stand it and serve our flag."

This was the final phrase in a letter from Corregidor, Cavite, Philippine Islands, written by a soldier of the 24th infantry, United States Army, and published in THE AGE, issue of December 18, 1913. The letter related that soldiers of the 24th infantry, stationed in the Philippines, were treated like slaves; that they were compelled to work in the rain, loading and unloading stuff and shovelling rocks while standing in water up to their shoe tops; that the meals had to be eaten in the rain; that water flooded their tents and ran under the beds; that no facilities were given for drying wet clothes and that the men were compelled to get in bed and cover up to dry or wait until the sun came out; that the soldiers had to work on Sundays; that in addition to their own work they were compelled to do the work of the white soldiers; that the launch Muley from Manila brought supplies of chickens, eggs and fruit for the white soldiers which the Negro soldiers had to unload, but that the launch brought no supplies for the colored soldiers; that the moving picture shows, the post exchange and reading rooms were places in which the colored soldiers were not wanted; that Gen. Bell and others of the white officers did not like the men and that there was mistreatment and discrimination all along the line.

The editor of THE AGE addressed a letter to Lindley M. Garrison, Secretary of War, enclosing the entire article as published, and requested that an investigation of the alleged discriminations against Negro soldiers in the Philippines be made. The belief was expressed that Secretary Garrison, regarded as one of the broad-minded officials of the Wilson administration, would order a thorough investigation of the serious charges against the white officers of the regiment. Fred R. Moore, editor of THE AGE, is in receipt of a letter from the Secretary of War, under date of June 1, with a report of the investigation as conducted by his orders, and inclosing a copy of orders issued by his direction by General Leonard Wood, Chief of Staff of the army, to the Adjutant General. The letter from Secretary Garrison and the instructions issued by the Chief of Staff follow:

Letter from Secretary Garrison.

2110150-AGO.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Washington, June 1, 1914.

Mr. Fred R. Moore,
Editor, The New York Age,
247 West 46th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Sir:—Referring to your letter of December 20th last, to the Secretary of War, inclosing an article published in your paper alleging discrimination of treatment against members of the 24th Infantry, stationed in the Philippines.

The matters complained of in your letter have been fully investigated and reported upon as follows:

A detachment of six companies, 24th Infantry, was sent to Corregidor Island for maneuvers from May 22, 1913, to July 20, 1913, when they were added to the permanent garrison of that place. This was at the beginning of the rainy season, when they began the construction of nipa quarters for this detachment, and the work continued through the rainy season and part of the dry season. The work of building nipa quarters, when necessary to provide themselves with shelter, is required of all troops in the Philippines. In this instance the officers of the detachment were present and working at all times with their men, sharing the same camp life, the same shelter and food. The camp was uncomfortable during the rains, as any camp will be, but every effort was made to make all as comfortable as possible under the conditions. They were given a double allowance of tents, each company was given a stove in a drying room for clothes, the mess was excellent and the mess room was covered with paulins. From seven to eight hours were devoted to this work daily, except Sundays. On two or three Sundays it seems a small number were at work placing material in order to prevent delay of the full working force on Monday.

The unloading of the supply boat was done by details from all organizations as it brought supplies for everyone. The 24th Infantry furnished its quota for this work.

The officers of the 24th Infantry say there has been no discrimination against their men and that great numbers went to every moving picture show on exactly the same terms as other men.

I must add that the 24th Infantry has in the past enjoyed an excellent reputation in the service, the men giving their best efforts and its officers keen to keep up a high standard of efficiency.

The publication of anonymous correspondence which reflects upon its good name does an injury to all.

The inclosed copy of instructions sent to the army shows you that the Secretary of War is ready at all times to give his personal attention to matters of injustice.

Very respectfully,
(Signed) LINDLEY M. GARRISON,
Secretary of War.

Instructions to Commanding Officers.

Office of the Chief of Staff, Washington, 5 February, 1914.

Memorandum for the Adjutant General:

The Secretary of War is convinced that for the best interests of the service, the use of all outside influence to secure any sort of preferment or consideration should be done away with. There are orders to this effect, but they have not always been observed.

The result of the use of outside influence, if it is effective, is to cause action to be founded not upon justice and right, fairness and equity, but to make it dependent upon the amount and quality of outside influence that could be brought to bear. If such outside influence does not result in affecting the action, it simply takes up the time and attention of the Department, all of which should be devoted to the innumerable duties awaiting attention.

From every standpoint, therefore, it is desirable that a thorough, impartial, fair and equitable consideration and determination should be given every important question and situation that arises. To this end, the Secretary is desirous of having all concerned informed of his directions in this respect. He wishes all complaints of injustice or unfair treatment, or other such subject matter, listened to with care, investigated with an impartial mind, and decided justly. This will result in very few cases remaining in which there is any legitimate cause of complaint; but it is his wish that all such should be so treated as to be capable of being brought to him for final determination. For these cases, the way of appeal must be left absolutely free and open.

In furtherance of this general policy, the Secretary of War directs that the attention of commanding generals of departments, districts and the commanding officers of all grades throughout the service, be invited to the necessity for giving most careful heed to all complaints which reach them from subordinates. While the forwarding of trivial complaints is strongly deprecated, it is most important that well founded complaints should be thor-

WEARING THE UNIFORM OF BLUE.

The Chicago Defender 5-9-14.

SO FAR IT HAS NOT BEEN DEEMED NECESSARY by the authorities at Washington to call upon the State militia or to ask for volunteers to protect American rights in Mexico. A few regiments of regulars, together with the navy, have proven equal to the occasion thus far. But it is gratifying to note that from every section of the country the colored man has stepped boldly to the front and offered himself for his country. This, too, at a time when certain elements in authority are doing their level best to deprive him of all that goes to make a loyal citizen. We repeat, it is gratifying to note how the colored man rises above these petty though disagreeable things and shows his fitness to be an integral part of this great country by taking the just and manly stand. That we were not expected to do this is evidenced by editorials appearing in some of our biggest dailies. A Florida

paper says: "The willingness to fight for their country is one of the highest evidences of devotion to its welfare that could be offered." We are also reminded, though brought here as slaves by other than the people of this country, what appeared for generations as a curse has turned out in the providence of God one of the greatest blessings ever bestowed upon a race in the history of the world. Brought from the darkest depths of barbarism to be clothed in the physical and moral habiliments of civilization and surrounded by the spiritual illumination of Christianity, the race has passed through the most tremendous transformation recorded of any people in history. We are grateful to the point of shedding our blood for the preservation and honor and prestige of our country. And this war with Mexico will not be the first war in which the blood of the colored man has been shed. America has no history he does not figure in prominently. We have dissensions in our own household. We are dissatisfied with the treatment accorded us here in the United States. But we have as much to protect against the enemy as has the white man, nor do we feel that he has one whit more claim to this soil than we. So we wear the uniform of blue and fight shoulder to shoulder with our prejudiced, unjust neighbor against a common foe—'tis best.

THE BLACK BOYS AT VERA CRUZ

It is a fact of great historic interest that A. Vic Johnson reports in our last issue concerning the bravery of the black boys who fought at the taking of Vera Cruz. History will probably call that bloody engagement which sacrificed the lives of nineteen and wounded many more American bluejackets—the first battle of our second war with Mexico. The one question that was uppermost in the mind of every thoughtful colored citizen after that battle was how could it be that, contrary to all precedent, that this nation should go to war without a black man playing a part in the conflict. The white daily press gave never an intimation that a single black man took part in the fray. That these papers and their correspondents at the front deliberately and studiously ignored the heroic and important part which the black sailors of Uncle Sam took in the taking of Vera Cruz is one of the saddest commentaries which has been made in this generation upon the narrowness of American institutions. That the New York News has been the medium of making this known to the civilized world is a source of pardonable pride to us. Mr. Johnson's contribution is a fact of great historic interest to the race and the country and the world. It completes the grand chain of the black man's heroism and patriotism which began with the settlement of St. Augustine and Jamestown and coming on down through the Boston massacre and Bunker Hill in 1776, the battle of Lake Erie and the bombardment of New Orleans in 1812 by the British, the war with Mexico in 1846, the Civil War in 1861 and ended with the battle of San Juan Hill in 1898. The service which black sailors and soldiers have rendered the American people in their hours of need seem little less than Providential.

THE PRICE OF PERSECUTION

A casual visitor among any group of the younger and more thoughtful colored men will find in their discussion of the nation's present foreign situation much food for thought. It is not that we subscribe to much or any part of this gossip, but that we would call the attention of this country to a condition now fast crystalizing in the minds of the young men of the race. Such expressions as, "Should war break out between the United States and Japan or Mexico it would cost Uncle Sam fifteen dollars to send me a postal card calling me to arms," are not infrequent. "Why should I make myself a target for the Japs or the Mexicans whom America is discriminating against because of their color, when this country gives me but few of my rights?" is the attitude we dare say of a majority of the more thoughtful colored men. Even so able and conservative a citizen as Ralph W. Tyler, formerly Auditor of the United States Navy, in our last issue puts the question thus bluntly: "How this administration in case of war can expect the colored man to enlist and fight in the face of the segregation and Jim Crowing of faithful colored employees right under the President's nose and without protest from him is beyond the ken of the average man. How the President could expect colored men to offer their services and their blood in defense of a country whose executive and legislative majority seeks to make segregation and even elimination in government service a thing sanctioned by legislative act, is a puzzle to the loyal."

It is not that the colored man would not again prove his patriotism and valor in going to the front for any righteous cause, but it is that the colored citizen is now making for himself distinctions between the righteous and unrighteous cause. He no longer says without a second thought: "My country—may she be ever right, but wrong or right, my country." The black man loves freedom for himself better than freedom for any other man. Anglo-Saxon Negrophobia is fast making a common cause and a common front, a single phalanx of all the colored peoples of the world. The colored man nowhere is going to fight to keep in subjection another colored man. While the Japanese may prate philosophically and ethnologically about his Caucasian lineage, the mongrel white rabble of California are raising higher and higher the bars against his equal right in justice and in truth to admission through her Golden Gate. The mixed Spanish peoples of Mexico may cling with reverence to their Castilian grandee ancestry, but the drop of African blood in their heroic President, Huerta, has barred the Wilson administration from his recognition. The East Indian artisan imported wholesale into South Africa may look with disdain upon membership in the race of his Kaffir fellow laborer, but denial of the franchise and a stubborn civic color line have made a mockery of his Aryan ancestry. He is a black man. That is enough. These are the facts and these are the thoughts ruminating through the minds of the black men of this country. The question in his own mind, which may grow into the conviction that he should not fight for his country, is the price which race persecution must pay to the bravest race of soldiers America ever had.